

# SPOKE

## Conestoga College, Kitchener

FEBRUARY 15, 1999

### What's Inside



Job fair attracts Conestoga students.

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Woodworking students recognized at banquet.

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Condors tie Leos 1-1.

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Is Willie worth all the hype?

## Woodworkers talk shop

By Neven Mujezinovic

Woodworking Canada '99, hosted by Conestoga College on Feb. 4, was a great success.

"It went off practically without a hitch," according to Mark Forgeron, co-ordinator of the woodworking-technician program. "The response was absolutely terrific."

The feedback from students and industry people has been extremely positive, said Forgeron. "Students want it to happen again next year. They weren't aware of how important an event this was going to be."

The dean of technology at Conestoga, Michael McClements, said this was a day unlike any other in his experience at the college.

"I have not yet seen a day quite like this one, that brought as many interested industry parties together in one place," said McClements. He added from the students' standpoint there was not going to be a better opportunity to talk to potential employers.

The day included a competition for students, meetings for woodworking industry associations, information sharing and product displays from the industry.



Jody Wyman, student co-ordinator for the Woodworking Canada '99 event, checks out a new cordless power jigsaw.

(Photo by Neven Mujezinovic)

About 50 booths were set up by various industry companies and associations. Students had an opportunity to talk to people from the field and ask them questions. Many companies were represented by their human resources personnel who took resumes at the booths.

Conestoga College also had two booths set up to promote the woodworking program to potential students, says Leisa Cronsberry, a college liaison officer, who was manning one of

the booths. She said the response was good, as there were several high school students as well as teachers, showing an interest in the program.

Another highlight of the event was the general and industry forums, which took place in the blue cafeteria.

The general forum showcased guest speaker, Camille Roberge of Formation Success Detail Inc.

Speaking to more than 150 students, faculty and industry members, Roberge lit up the room

with his dynamic presentation. Although it was delivered in a humorous fashion, to which constant outbursts of laughter can attest, the presentation had a serious message, as well. The message was that the key to success in retail or in any other industry was happiness.

Happiness, said Roberge, is what employers are looking for, because a happy employee is the one that will do the best work and have the best attitude.

See Woodworking... page 10

## Campers freeze for charity

By Elizabeth Sackrider

With the temperature hovering around -10 C, the annual DSA winter camp-out proved to be a worthy challenge for those who could brave the cold.

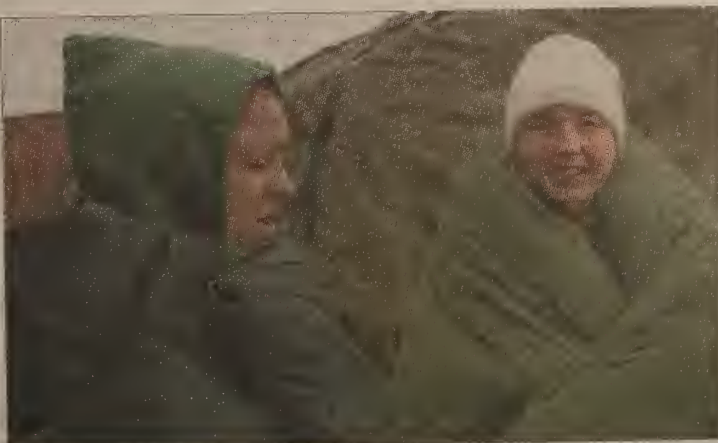
Fifteen souls took arms against Old Man Winter on a blustery night, Feb. 4, to have a good time and to raise money for ROOF (Reaching Our Outdoor Friends). ROOF assists in getting kids off the streets.

Each of the participants had to raise at least \$20 in sponsorship before they could subject themselves to the elements of winter.

"It was for a good cause," said Laurie Campbell, a CBSA member. "A lot of people thought we were crazy."

The night started at 4:30 p.m. and was ended at 8:30 a.m., when a rash of pagers went off.

The activities included all the



Melissa McShane and Diana Abernethy step outsidewhile still curled up in their sleeping bags at the winter camp-out Feb. 4.

(Photo by Elizabeth Sackrider)

regular camping traditions like a marshmallow toast and weinie roast, some guitar playing and a little bit of rough-housing.

"They all beat up Tickle Me Elmo," said Kristi Mason, business student and DSA class

representative.

Some of the less traditional activities included going inside to watch a movie and to play a video game.

"We were inside and outside the entire night," said Mason. "We

didn't end up going to bed until 2 a.m."

When it was time for sleep, not an ounce of flesh was exposed as the campers curled up into their sleeping bags. To keep warm the group used a substantial number of blankets, a large number of coats and hats and anything that would retain body heat.

"I wasn't cold," said Campbell. "I only had on a heavy sweater, jacket, sweat shirt, flannel P.J's, ski pants and two pairs of socks."

Nestled inside a huge army tent borrowed by a student involved in the military reserves, the group hauled sofas out of the Sanctuary to use as beds.

When the first rays of sun appeared on the horizon and the night was over, most campers were glad they had participated.

"I'd go again next year only I would bring more sleeping bags," concluded Campbell.



**Candidates' posters defaced****DSA officer wants apologies for vandalism**

By Jaime Clark

A large number of posters promoting the candidates in the upcoming Doon Student Association (DSA) elections have been defaced. Candidates' pictures have been scanned and distorted and derogatory comments have been written on some.

Mike Harris, chief returning officer for the election, said cafeteria staff saw people taking down the posters and knows who the culprits are.

If cafeteria staff turns in the culprits, their program co-ordinator can be told about it and disciplinary action will be taken.

Harris was surprised at how quickly the original posters were taken down and replaced with the distorted images. About 55 posters

were hung around the college and a large number were changed the same day the posters went up. DSA members took down the defaced posters as soon as they noticed them.

Harris said his reaction is: "This is college, we're adults."

Harris said he knows this kind of thing goes on in elementary school but he didn't anticipate it at college.

Harris said he wants the offenders to write a serious apology. If that doesn't happen, Harris said the culprits could be banned from all DSA activities and the incident would be reported to their program co-ordinator.

Harris said while the altered posters may have created publicity for the campaign, it also reflects negatively on the election process.



Mike Harris, DSA chief returning officer, would like to see the people who defaced candidates' posters make anonymous apologies. (Photo by Jaime Clark)

"Obviously, somebody's got a lot of time on their hands. They obviously did it with school resources because it was done in the same day (as the posters were posted)," he said.

Other than the disfigurement of the campaign posters, Harris said the election process is running smoothly. Candidates whose positions were acclaimed (Ellen Menage, DSA president; Jenn Hussey, vice-president of operations; and Steve Coleman, vice-president of student affairs) will still be participating in the speeches and Harris hopes about 20 per cent of the student population turns out to vote.

"Hopefully next week, everything will go smooth, we won't have any more problems," he said. "We want to have a good, fair election."

**Conestoga joins Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program****School board forms partnership with college**

By Lisa Wilhelm

Conestoga College and the Waterloo Region District school board signed an agreement governing apprenticeship training in the motive power trades on Feb. 4, in the Guild Room at Conestoga.

Under the agreement, students from high schools within the school board who earn sufficient secondary school credits in grades 11 and 12 in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) will be able to continue their theoretical apprenticeship training in automotive service technician, truck and coach technician, farm equipment mechanic and heavy equipment mechanic.

This can be done by entering directly into the intermediate level of training at Conestoga or any other college in Ontario.

According to Linda Barfoot, consultant of experimental learning at the school board, this program started three years ago as a pilot project.

"It is a good program because the high schools are providing colleges with students and it gives students initiative to finish this

program," said Barfoot.

The signing of the articulation agreement opened with a welcome from Hans Zawada, chair of apprenticeship and trades at Conestoga. He then introduced representatives from the school board and the high schools

"It is a good program because the high schools are providing colleges with students and it gives students initiative to finish this program."

*Linda Barfoot, consultant of experimental learning, Waterloo Region District school board*

involved in the program, as well as the guest speakers.

Two of these guests included Christine Massengale and R.J.

App, Kitchener collegiate institute students involved with the OYAP program.

Massengale, who works at Downtown Automotive in Kitchener, said she found out about the program in Grade 9 and thought getting involved would be a great opportunity for the future.

It was a chance to gain first-hand experience from professionals and get a head start in the field with the experience, said Massengale.

"It was plain to see I was in a man's world and sometimes the physical elements challenged me, but I want to inspire young women to seek a career in this field," she said.

App, who works at Marden Motors in Kitchener, said he has had a fairly good experience with the OYAP program and it gives students a chance to encounter real world problems in the shop.

"It's a good program because a student can go out and actually experience the trade before committing themselves to it," App said.

Other speakers who commended the program included Henry Duncan, Ministry of Education and Training; Angelo Longo,

Owner/Manager of Galt Chrysler Dodge; Patti Haskell, director, Waterloo Region District school board and Mike McClements, dean of technology, trades and apprenticeships at Conestoga.

Duncan, Haskell and McClements signed the

articulation agreement following the speeches.

Currently, there are approximately 30 students at Glenview Park and Kitchener Waterloo collegiate who will be eligible for the exemption under this agreement



Henry Duncan (left) and Patti Haskell watch as Mike McClements signs the agreement between Conestoga College and the Waterloo Region District school board. (Photo by Lisa Wilhelm)

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Marketing team will try for third victory next year

# Conestoga to host year 2000 college marketing competition

By Jeanette Everall

After winning two years in a row, Conestoga's marketing-competition team will get a chance to strut their stuff at home in next year's Ontario Colleges' Marketing Competition (OCMC).

The announcement that Conestoga will host the competition in the year 2000 was made at the Jan. 26 board of governor's meeting.

Planning for the event won't start until December 1999 after this year's competition is over, said marketing faculty member Deborah Reyner, who will be in charge of planning the event, however, organizing the fund-raising and other preliminary planning for the event will begin in May 1999.

"Traditionally, the marketing competitions in the past have looked to corporate support. I think that's the route we are going to go," said Reyner, who expects 250 to 300 students to participate in next year's competition.

Members of this year's winning team presented their award to the board at the Jan. 26 meeting.

The competition, held in November 1998 by Durham College in Oshawa, was an opportunity for Conestoga's 11-member team to compete against other college marketing teams in Ontario.

The two-day event is the



The team members on the winning marketing team include back row, left to right, Bernadette Giet, Maria Lacko, Jen MacKinnon, Ambrose Garvey, Hulya Erol, Lisa Cashmore and Sheila Jackson. Front row, left to right, Kristi Meyer, Kathrine Crespo, Michelle Sebastian and Joanne Scott.

(Photo by Jeanette Everall)

ultimate test of knowledge for students taking part in the competition. Last year proved to be another successful year for the Conestoga team who also won the 1997 competition.

The win was a result of hard work, team effort and faculty support, said students who

attended the competition.

"What's more important than the celebration after the awards are presented is the feeling of accomplishment the team feels after having put so much hard work into the competition," said Kathrine Crespo, who won first place in the Entrepreneurial Case

competition with her partner Ambrose Garvey.

The awards banquet is held at the end of the second day of the competition.

At the ceremony, individual awards as well as the overall winners are presented.

Conestoga's team members

included Bernadette Giet, Maria Lacko, Jen MacKinnon, Ambrose Garvey, Hulya Erol, Lisa Cashmore, Michelle Sebastian, Sheila Jackson, Kristi Meyer, Kathrine Crespo and Joanne Scott.

Michelle Sebastian, who came in first in the Job Interview competition, said the best thing about the competition is that the faculty believe in the students.

Ambrose Garvey adds, "All the faculty involved put in an extreme amount of effort to get us there and then when we got there they didn't put any pressure on us to win." Garvey, along with his first-place finish with Crespo, won first place in the Sales Presentation event.

Also winning firsts for the team were Lisa Cashmore and Bernadette Giet in the Retail Case competition.

The final score to decide the winning team is calculated from points earned from individual events and the highest team sum wins the competition.

Conestoga's victory was the result of team effort, said Sebastian.

"The main thing that I love was the fact that a lot of us were in the same class and we had worked together (on class projects), but we really didn't know each other," said Sebastian. "But when we went down there we became a team. I would do it again tomorrow. It was that much fun."

## Retired LASA teacher improving after stroke

By Lisa Wilhelm

Bob Hays, a former faculty member in the law and security administration program, is expected to return home from the Cambridge Memorial Hospital at the end of the month after suffering a stroke in his Cambridge home on Nov. 13.

Hays, who recently retired but was still teaching until the end of this academic year when the stroke occurred, is constantly improving, according to Susan Hartley, another member of the law and security faculty.

"He is continuing to progress in getting movement on his right side, but he still needs to build up strength," said Hartley of Hays who was paralyzed as a result of the stroke.

Although Hays uses a wheelchair now, Hartley said he hopes to eventually be walking with the aid of a cane.

"He still needs support in both

front and back, but he sees walking on his own coming some time in the future," said Hartley.

Although Hays is retired, he still wants to be involved in the continuing education program. When the stroke occurred, he was in the process of co-authoring a book on criminal and civil law that will be used by students in the program.

"He has it all stored up in his memory," Hartley said. "He just has to get it all down on paper."



Bob Hays.

(Staff photo)

Ever wonder . . .

## What the heck is a blue moon?

By Judy Sankar

You have almost certainly heard the phrase "once in a blue moon." But where did the phrase come from? In 1999, you can see where it came from literally. In fact, you may have seen it already.

1999's first blue moon occurred on Jan. 31, and its second will occur on March 31.

What is a blue moon?

"A blue moon refers to the second full moon to occur in a single calendar month," says Robert Mann, professor of physics at the University of Waterloo.

"The average interval between full moons is about 29.5 days, while the length of an average month is roughly 30.5 days.

This makes it very unlikely that any given month will contain two full moons, though it does sometimes happen," says Mann adding that there is no possibility of a blue moon occurring in February.

What makes this year more special is that 1999 has two blue moons. The last year in which a double blue moon occurred was

1961, and it won't occur again until 2018.

According to Mann, the next blue moon, on March 31, will occur around 10:50 p.m. and should be visible unless clouds block it.

"On average, there will be 41 months that have two full moons in every century, so you could say that once in a blue moon actually means once every 2½ years," says

Mann regarding the significance of blue moons.

While the expression, blue moon, dates back to at least Shakespeare's time, as a way of saying once in a while, it wasn't used in terms of astronomy until as late as 1946.

On March 31 just take a look up.

The sight is something you only see "once in a blue moon."

DSA

Slumber Party

Thurs. Feb. 25  
The Sanctuary

Sign Up at the DSA Office





## Jordan or no Jordan, basketball fans will return

Well, it only took an extra six months, but the 1998-1999 National Basketball Association (NBA) season finally tipped off on Feb. 5.

For what promises to be a strenuous and compact season for the players, the first night had 24



**Melissa Dietrich**

of the 29 franchises playing.

Before the season even began, there have been several factors to make it go down in the history books as one of the most eventful seasons.

Never before have fans waited such a long time for a season to begin. During the lockout, there came a point where many sports announcers said they worried about the fate of basketball because it seemed that fans did not

care about what was going on.

But broadcasters' fears were put to rest when on Sunday, Feb. 7, on just the third day of the season, the majority of stadiums reported selling between 90 to 95 per cent of their seats.

It appears that the fans have forgiven the owners and players.

Another factor to make this an unforgettable season would be the timely leave of Chicago Bulls player Michael Jordan.

I say that his emotion-filled retirement speech was timely because it could not have been at a better time.

It had become obvious that the world did not care when it was announced that the lockout was over; sports fans still had football and hockey to watch.

Jordan's speech, which came shortly before the beginning of the pre-season, was enough to capture the attention of the media and the

fans, something the sport was so desperate for.

Perhaps it may be because football season is now over that fans are coming out to the games.

But whatever the reason is, it appears that even though there will only be 50 games this season, even though the best player of all time is no longer a threat to the rest of the teams, the fans have welcomed the game back with open wallets.

## Settle down folks, it's only a rodent

Warton Willie, Canada's foremost weather-predicting rodent died Jan. 31 at age 22. Yet, the public wasn't informed of this unfortunate state of affairs until the morning Willie was supposed to predict how many weeks until spring. Now, there is a growing debate that little Willie has been dead for months.

Will this be as big as the "Who killed JFK?" controversy? I hope not, yet I can't help but wonder since Willie's death made the front page of major newspapers across the province. Mike Harris, premier of Ontario, even had some heartfelt remarks about the



**Jaime Clark**

albino groundhog. A speech was also made in the House of Commons, while an attempt was made by others to suppress their laughter, about the wonderful service Willie has provided for the province.

Each year since 1956, Warton Willie emerged from hibernation (looks to me like he's yanked out of his home) long enough to pronounce his weather report. Fortunately, this year, Willie managed to write his prediction on a piece of paper before he died. Imagine that.

Perhaps it's because I've never celebrated Groundhog Day or seen Willie first hand that I don't really understand what the fuss is about. To me, he's an overgrown version of a guinea pig with the title of Canada's leading weather prognosticator. I just don't get it.

While the Warton's Groundhog Day Festival draws more than 10,000 people and attracts worldwide media attention, one has to wonder if the delay in releasing the information regarding Willie's untimely death was the work of a marketing genius. Apparently, this was the first year extensive marketing was done to promote the festival and without its chief player, the event would be a bust.

And now, as Willie lies peacefully in his pine coffin, carrot in hand, children and adults alike mourn the loss of their dear friend Willie.

After seeing him paraded in front of thousands, year after year on Groundhog Day, I wouldn't rule out the suicide theory for poor old Willie.

May he finally rest in peace.

## Coping with the reality of homosexuality

How do you define reality?

This question has plagued philosophers for centuries. It is difficult to define what is real and what is not.

My friend and I were driving downtown to browse in the used record store, when we became involved in heated debate on the issue.

I had suggested reality for an individual is what they presently experience. For example, in my opinion, I know the car I was driving was real because I could feel the seat underneath me, I could touch the steering wheel and I could see it.



**Elizabeth Sackrider**

Basically, reality is what you know and understand.

As we were having coffee, I suggested my companion go on a date with my friend.

"Elizabeth," he said grabbing my hand, "I don't want to date your friend."

"Why not?" I asked, getting rather angry.

"Because I have a boyfriend."

Bam! A large Mac truck slammed into my face. A new reality now existed for me.

"What?" I stammered through my laughter.

"His name is Lucas," he began.

By this time my emotions had overtaken my system.

Tears rolled down my cheeks like rain on a windowpane. I was smiling yet crying at the same time.

My laughing and crying were comparable to when the sun pushes through the rain clouds during a storm. It might still be raining outside but a rainbow will follow.

For me, gay people had always been a line on the horizon, something you see but don't experience.

I saw gay people all around but I had never had a personal friend who was gay.

The first gay men I had encountered were in a hair salon on Yonge Street in Toronto. I was only 15, and coming from a small farming community in rural Ontario, I had never witnessed the outright flamboyancy of these men. Their behavior confused and bewildered me. Every man I had had contact with was the strong,

silent type and very masculine.

Time passed and I grew accustomed to seeing gay people when I went to the "big city."

I saw gay people in clubs in Toronto; same-sex couples jiggling to the bass rhythms. I watched them on the dance floor with a sense of amusement and apprehension. I thought I was fine with homosexuals, at least from a distance.

When I left the clubs I never gave gay people a second thought because I had not experienced gay people in my everyday life.

To me, gay people were in the shops and clubs of Toronto. And to be perfectly honest, I thought I was so open about the issue.

It wasn't until my friend revealed his gay identity that I realized I hadn't had any real

contact with gays. By my own definition they were an unreality.

Now, I was faced with the problem of accepting this idea.

A lot of people have said, "Oh, yeah, I am okay with gay people. Hell, I watch Ellen."

This doesn't cut it.

It is when you experience the issue first hand that you begin to understand.

One of my best friends is gay and I have realized I am uncomfortable with the topic, when I thought I was completely open about it.

At least I have admitted I am feeling weird.

It is when people say they don't have any prejudice that real hatred begins.

Right now, I am trying to experience this new reality.

**SPOKE**

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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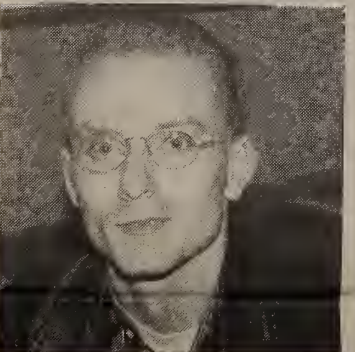




Jennifer LaForge, 21, third-year geography student at the University of Waterloo.



Katherine Jackson, 21, economics and accounting student at Wilfrid Laurier.



Jeff Russell, 26, Conestoga College marketing graduate.

## Students enjoy job fair

# Looking for perfect job isn't easy for students

By Janet Wakutz

Students wandered around the Partnerships for Employment University and College Job Fair at Bingeman's on Feb. 3, looking for the perfect job for them.

Busloads of students from the universities of Wilfrid Laurier, Guelph and Waterloo and Conestoga College began arriving at Bingeman's at 9:30 a.m. and immediately entrance lines were formed.

Students chatted as they waited to enter, some laughed and joked, and others waited nervously biting fingernails and shuffling file folders full of resumes.

It didn't take long for the many booths to become surrounded by interested students. Some were timid while others appeared more confident; the common thread was job searching.

A wide range of employers were represented from hi-tech companies like Com-Dev to Tim Horton's.

A wide variety of jobs were on offer from summer camp positions to longterm career positions.

Brightly coloured booths giving away freebies consistently attracted the largest crowds.

A random selection of students at the job fair said if they could find the ultimate job for them at the fair it would be well paying.

Jennifer LaForge, 21, a University of Waterloo student in her third-year of geography, was visiting the summer camp

"I like the different jobs associated with advertising and marketing.

Jeff Russell Conestoga marketing graduate

employment opportunities booth.

"Working with kids would open the door for a position in a teacher's college," she said.

Also visiting the summer camp booths was 21-year-old Katherine Jackson, an economics and accounting student at Laurier.

"I could work outside all summer," she said, "something that would give me good experience and finance my continuing education."

Jeff Russell, 26, a Conestoga marketing graduate is currently

working at Factory Shoe but would like a full-time job in advertising.

"I like the different jobs associated with advertising and marketing," he said.

Jon Nunn, 22, will graduate from Laurier in April with a bachelor of business administration. A little more in the spirit for the ultimate job, Nunn said he was looking for a "high-paying job with flexible hours in the human resources field."

He added that if it was up to him he would be able to choose his work location too.

Two 21-year-old management-studies students at Conestoga, Patty Eckstein and Nancy Farias, were looking for management positions with good pay. Eckstein said she was flexible about the type of company she would work for while Farias had her sights set on the Gap.

Photos by Janet Wakutz



Jon Nunn, 22, business student at Wilfrid Laurier.



Patty Eckstein, 21, third-year management studies student at Conestoga College.



Nancy Farias, 21, third-year management studies student at Conestoga College.

# Emotional, psychological links to eating disorders, panel says at meeting

By Judy Sankar

"When I first began shoving my fingers down my throat or starving myself for days, I didn't think it would become out of control," said the young, blonde woman.

She was just one of four people who spoke at a panel discussion on eating disorders at the Waterloo Recreation Complex Feb. 4.

The soft-spoken woman, who asked to remain anonymous, has suffered from both anorexia and bulimia since she was 15. The problem got so extreme that she hid plastic bags filled with vomit under her bed to hide her disorder from her parents.

Now in her 20s, the woman is recovering from her disorder with professional help. "I am living proof that you can get over an eating disorder and have a fulfilling and wholesome life," she said.

Although she is happy with her life now, she said she doesn't know what physical damage has been done to her body from anorexia and bulimia, and it worries her.

The woman explained why some people are afraid to get help. "When you admit it and get help, there is a fear that you will automatically have to gain weight," she said.

Panel members also included a

"When I first began shoving my fingers down my throat or starving myself for days, I didn't think it would become out of control."

Women on panel who asked to remain anonymous

kinesiologist, a physician and a woman whose two daughters suffered from anorexia.

"It seems the more you concentrate on the food, the more aggravated the problem becomes," said the mother emphasizing that the problem with an eating disorder goes much deeper than food. All

panelists agreed that there are emotional and psychological links to eating disorders.

The kinesiologist reminded the audience of about 15, mostly females, that eating disorders occur in both men and women. He also encouraged parents to interview coaches before they register their children for a sport.

"The longer this condition goes

untreated, the longer the recovery and the less likely," he said, adding that even after recovery, people who once suffered from an eating disorder fall victim to other physical illnesses as a result.

Signs that a person is suffering from an eating disorder, according to the panelists, include obsessive exercise, continually decreasing meal portions, depression and

withdrawal from everything.

"An eating disorder is the disorder of a perfectionist," said the parent adding that high-achievers are good candidates for eating disorders because they strive for the best.

The panelists reminded the audience there are numerous agencies in the community where help can be obtained.

## Creating awareness



Lynn Robbins of student services organized the information table for Eating Disorder Week, Feb. 1 to Feb 7. (Photo by Melissa Dietrich)



# Broadcasting students fulfil dream in NYC

By Jeanette Everall

A radio documentary project has turned into a dream come true for two second-year broadcasting students.

Johnny Staub and Sabrina Pierson recently travelled to New York City to interview Katie Couric, co-host of the Today Show, for a project in their radio performance lab.

The pair spent over \$1,000 each to complete the project, a 30-60 minute audio biography worth 40 per cent of their final mark.

But, Staub says he would have paid that much just to meet Couric.

"Johnny has been in love with Katie Couric forever," says Pierson.

Staub says he started watching the Today Show religiously in Grade 12.

"I would fall asleep with the television on at night and wake up to it in the morning," he says.

The Today Show has been a live program, airing from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. for 60 years. It is also the No. 1 rated television show in America, says Staub, who has spent the last year collecting



Johnny Staub and Sabrina Pierson sit at the news desk of the Today Show during their trip to New York City to interview Katie Couric on Jan. 22. (Submitted Photo)

magazine articles and research on the show.

The pair requested the interview in October 1998. After about 40 phone calls to NBC, they finally landed a five-minute interview with Couric on Jan. 22. However, Staub and Pierson managed to get triple that amount of time with the star.

"We were only supposed to have 10 minutes maximum and we

have 20 minutes on tape of just us (talking) with her," says Staub. "And that's not including the pre-interview talking with her, talking to her afterwards and taking pictures. She gave us a huge chunk (of her time)."

The interview aside, they learned more than how to do a documentary, says Pierson.

"We got so much advice from

(Couric) and from the other performers of the Today Show," she says. "In general, anyone we met gave us a lot of advice."

But meeting Couric wasn't the only highlight of the day at NBC, Staub and Pierson also got to meet two of their heroes.

Sabrina met head news anchor Ann Curry, whom she admires and Staub met co-host Matt Lauer who

is his idol.

After the highlight of the trip was over, Staub and Pierson spent three more days in New York. They toured NBC studios, saw the Lion King on Broadway and attended tapings of the Rosie O'Donnell Show and Conan O'Brien show.

The trip wasn't all glamour, however, say Staub and Pierson. The accommodations were less than favourable, to say the least.

"I had to shower with a cockroach every day," says Sabrina. "I have the pictures to prove it."

Staub says the place where they stayed was "like a half-way point for people that couldn't get into mental institutions." At two in the morning they could hear people banging on doors and yelling obscenities.

On the whole, however, the trip was an eye-opening experience, says Pierson.

As for meeting Couric, Staub says it was something he always knew he was going to do.

"You wake up to this woman every morning - you feel like you're married to her," he says. "Meeting her was the greatest gift."

# Literacy lab officially opening in April

By Julie van Donkersgoed

The grand opening of the literacy lab is scheduled for the first week in April.

According to Marian Mainland, project co-ordinator, the literacy lab, located in room 2B22, is one of the most costly components of the Learning Opportunities Project, which is funded by a \$2.7 million grant from the provincial government.

The four-year project is to determine the kind of services colleges can provide to help

students with specific learning disabilities to be successful.

Conestoga is one of eight colleges participating in the project.

"By the end of this semester, we will have probably spent \$100,000 on software and equipment in that lab because the computers are all new, and we have scanners, reading machines and software for writing-support programs," said Mainland.

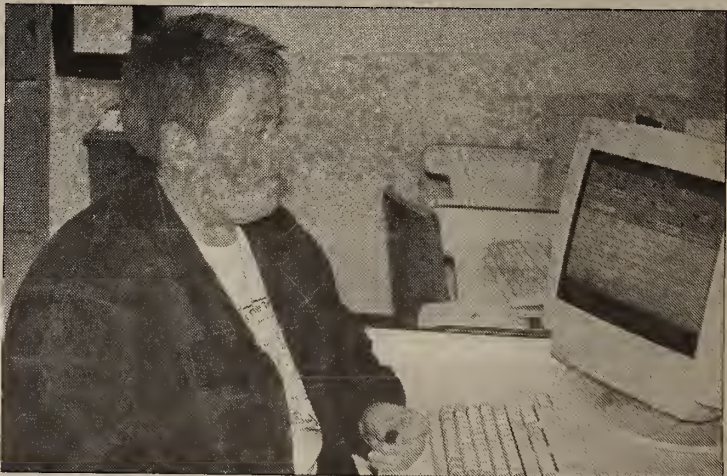
The college also plans to utilize the literacy lab as a community resource. This will provide the community with an opportunity

to access the lab, staffed with tutors, one evening and one weekend a month.

New electives are another component of the Learning Opportunities Project. The courses, strategies for student success: specialized and employment issues for the disabled, are designed to provide specific learning disabled students with the "meat" of what was previously covered in a non-credit workshop setting.

Mainland said the college plans to offer the courses as an elective during the day, beginning in May, and as a night course through continuing education in May and June.

The recent hiring of an employment advisor Charlie Matjanec is another component of the project that has recently been fulfilled.



Su Lyttle, the computer technician associated with the Learning Opportunities Project, works on one of the new computers located in 2B22. (Photo by Julie van Donkersgoed)

Matjanec who began his duties just after Christmas will be responsible for teaching the employment issues for the disabled elective, providing

transition support for specific learning disabled students entering program placements and advising students on postgraduate employment.



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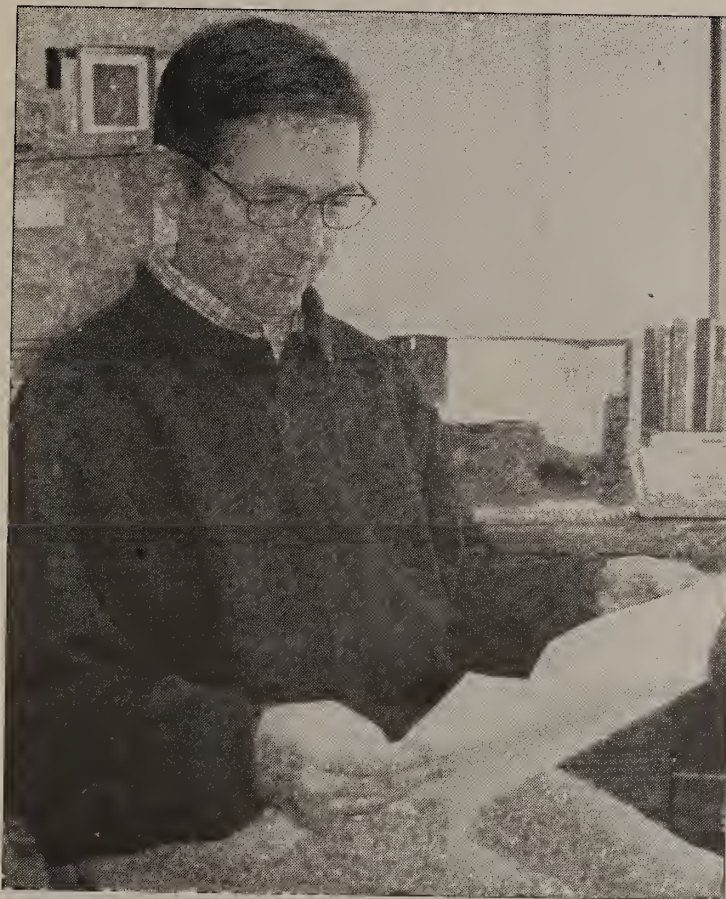
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To Matt Grahlman who  
has been voted best  
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And a special Valentine's  
to his special someone,  
who is as equally lucky  
to have such a wonderful  
boyfriend  
Matt Grahlman — you  
wish you could be me



# Speaking out about technology



Rick Casey, special needs transition counsellor for special needs services looks over the survey students with disabilities were asked to fill out. (Photo by Sarah Thomson)

By Sarah Thomson

"Speak out" was the message Conestoga's special needs services sent to students with disabilities encouraging them to participate in a national survey about the use of computers and information technologies for students with disabilities.

The adaptive technology project, or Adaptech, is the first national project of this scope. Some 3,000 questionnaires were distributed across Canada. Conestoga has 30 surveys and Rick Casey, special needs transition counsellor for the Learning Opportunities Project, estimated a third of them were filled out the morning of Feb. 3.

Dawson College in Montreal, in co-operation with Concordia University, is carrying out the research in partnership with the National Education Association of Disabled Students (NEADS) and the Quebec Association of Disabled Students in Education. The study is funded by the Office of Learning Technologies under Human Resources Development Canada and by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

"It is really important for us to have our voice," said Casey about the opportunity to participate in the Adaptech survey.

It is also a chance for the students to express themselves, said Casey. "This is a real opportunity for (students with disabilities) to have a voice and an impact on those services that ultimately affect them

and their success as a student, particularly a student with a disability," said Casey.

The survey was available in alternative formats, such as disks, so students could use voice adapters, and it was also available in large print.

The goal of the survey was to pinpoint students' needs, get students' opinions on what the college is doing and what they are doing well, what needs to be changed and what some of the students concerns are around funding support for repair of that equipment, said Casey. There was a whole range of questions in the survey that really get at the heart of what students with disabilities experience, said Casey.

Students were selected randomly to complete the survey and included students with disabilities who use computers and those that don't.

Conestoga has approximately 300 students with special needs.

"Generally speaking, most of the students have been more than willing to do it when they realize the importance of this," said Casey.

Counsellors and advisors in special needs services suspect some of the issues that will be identified in the questionnaire research will match those they have identified. Casey is looking forward to finding out from the research what some of the frustrations are and whether the findings of the survey validate special needs services experiences in this respect. Survey results will be available in six months to a year.

## Problems persist with technologies pertaining to special needs students

By Sarah Thomson

There are some real downsides to adaptive technology, to special needs, according to Rick Casey, a special needs transition counsellor at Conestoga. Drawbacks include computer programs that crash, the expense of the equipment and the availability of financial resources to purchase the technology. Equipment is outdated quickly and the depreciation is incredible, said Casey.

Servicing of adaptive technologies also continues to be of concern because it is a rather unique market, often based in larger metropolitan areas such as Toronto and Mississauga.

Another disadvantage specific to adaptive technology is that sometimes the technological environment changes before something else is in place. About a year and half ago when the college went to a Windows environment the adaptive technology wasn't there yet to allow students to move from a DOS based system to a very visual system with icons.

Trying to find screen readers that would actually identify those icons and be able to manipulate some of the software that runs with the

Windows environment is a bit complex and tricky and can be frustrating for a lot of students, said Casey.

Students at Conestoga can access adaptive technology in two ways. They can come through special needs services to sign up to use the literacy lab and/or they can also get access to the bursary for students with disabilities on OSAP and purchase their own equipment.

The bursaries are sponsored by the federal and provincial governments and can total \$7,000 and it has to be used for disability related expenses.

The second option is one Casey describes as the "ideal." Technology changes so rapidly that special needs ends up with a bin of equipment they don't use. It makes more sense to give it to the student and when the student graduates they take it to their employer and it is their responsibility for system upgrades, said Casey.

Special needs also serves students who don't qualify for OSAP but they don't have a lot of cash to throw around, said Casey. The lab at the college becomes critical for their learning. For people who receive bursaries, they will often purchase a system to work on at home and use the lab while they are at school.

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# PAC experience helps get foot in the door

By Sarah Thomson

Conestoga students are encouraged to participate as student representatives on the college's program advisory committees to represent their classmates and to network with people in the industry.

"Program advisory committees are one of the best kept secrets at Conestoga," according to Lesley McConville, program advisory committee administrator.

Program advisory committees provide the necessary link between Conestoga College and the community it serves. They keep the college responsive not only to current needs, but also assist in the identification of future trends/changes in the marketplace.

The board of governors has a primary responsibility for assessing community needs and evaluating the effectiveness of the college in meeting those needs. Program advisory committees play a key role in helping the Board exercise that responsibility.

Program advisory committees initiate, promote, assess and advise. Members serve as problem identifiers and assist the college in developing solutions. Specific functions for members are not restricted to, but may include: program review, program effectiveness, labour market changes/trends, student placement, co-operative education, professional development, facilities and equipment, student awards, student related activities, public relations, college functions and special assignments.

This is done through forums, such as the woodworking forum held Feb. 4, in the blue cafeteria at the college where students, faculty, and representatives from the woodworking industry come together to share information and exchange ideas.

Program advisory committees also run students through mock interviews, arrange job shadowing, sponsor awards and mentor students on projects.

Suggestions from faculty and the members of the board of governors bring forward people to sit on the committees.

McConville said the college looks for

all committee members.

Students also serve on program advisory committees. Usually, the students are chosen in the first year of the program and many are also involved in other student organizations such as the Doon Student Association or the Society of Mechanical Engineers.

The criteria and selection process varies from one program to the next and depends on the co-ordinator who establishes the requirements. Students serving on a program advisory committee are responsible for meeting with the committee at least twice a year.

There are various other events in which they can become involved. Students serving on the committees are always a part of the agenda and have an opportunity to speak.

It is important for student representatives to communicate with the other students in their program so they can communicate students' needs and ideas, said McConville. Representatives are also responsible for informing the students in their program about what happens at the meetings and they make the meeting minutes available.

McConville describes the experience of being a student representative as a "foot in the door." If a student stays on a program advisory committee his/her entire college career, he/she will get to know the members, gain public speaking experience and learn to make presentations.

Mostly, they will be doing a lot of listening about the industry they will be entering, said McConville.

If you would like more information about your program advisory committee, who sits on it and who your student representative is, contact your program co-ordinator or Lesley McConville at ext. 257.



Camille Roberge was a guest speaker at the woodworking forum. Woodworking Canada '99 is a program advisory committee initiative.

(Photo by Neven Mujezinovic)

There are 33 committees representing 60 programs, including apprenticeships, post-diploma, part-time and certificate programs at Conestoga. Close to 400 people volunteer their time to make these committees happen, said McConville. They are the "community in community college," she said.

Advisory committees are mandatory for all diploma programs and have been functioning at Conestoga since it opened 31 years ago.

With the exceptions of plumbing apprenticeship, motor vehicle maintenance and a small business course at Doon, all programs have an advisory committee.

alumni of the college, people in leadership positions and people from a cross-section of industry.

They try not to focus on an area of expertise when choosing committee members because the college wants to make sure there is a variety of background on the committees. This way they are not too specialized to be of a disadvantage, said McConville.

Committee members primarily represent Waterloo Region but some come from London, Toronto and Hamilton. They are asked to serve a three-year term, which is open for renewal at the end of their term. The board of governors appoints

# College's smoking rules tough to enforce

By Wayne Collins

The college's security staff says enforcing smoking regulations keeps them busier during the winter months than at any

other time.

Although security says students usually move away from non-smoking entrances when asked, the rule is a nuisance to enforce each day.

Ed Reese, security's site supervisor for the past 10 months, says doors 1 and 5 are the biggest problem. Both are non-smoking entrances. Reese says security tries to discourage any smoking around these doors. However, many people move down three metres from the door when they should be at least six metres away.

"Usually, (they're) very good when asked to move on," says Reese.

Al Hunter, head of security services, says enforcing the smoking regulations requires constant attention. Hunter says most of the complaints from non-smokers include crowded entrances and allergies to cigarette smoke.

He blames some of it on winter's chill and strong winds. Many people, he says, are reluctant to move the required 10 metres from Door 1.

Cliff Laurin, of the colleges' security staff, says many of the offenders are just too lazy to move most of the time.

"(Some people) don't want to walk a whole 20 feet from the door because they're afraid of the wind," says Laurin.

Laurin says the security office gets a fair number of

complaints and enforcing the smoking rules does take time.

Hunter says Conestoga College, unlike Sheridan College, doesn't have any anti-smoking rules built into its discipline policy. The college does have smoking regulations, but these are part of the City of Kitchener's by-laws and no fines

"You wouldn't want to print what I have to say about that."

Len Hofstetter,  
college maintenance worker

accompany on-campus offences.

Sheridan, meanwhile, fines first-time offenders \$20; second-time offenders \$30 and third-time offenders \$100.

"This could make a difference," says Hunter, adding that revenue from these fines would also keep tuition costs down.

"Some," he adds, "would perceive this as just a form of revenue generation."

Laurin says the only real weapon security has to keep smokers in line is suspensions. First, they obtain the person's student ID card and then give him/her a reprimand. If the student continues to defy the rules he/she can, technically, receive a two-day suspension. Faculty caught breaking smoking regulations can receive a week's suspension.

"This," says Laurin, "has not ever happened."

For anyone who doesn't know, he says, smoking is permitted at doors two, three and four. Doors one and five are smoke-free, says Laurin, despite the number of people lighting up there.

Meanwhile, Len Hofstetter, who's worked with college maintenance for five years, removes cigarette butts from around the college entrances.

"Someone's gotta do it," he says without stopping.

He says it's an unavoidable part of his job, but that doesn't mean he's happy about it.

When asked how he feels about repeatedly sweeping butts, Hofstetter said, "You wouldn't want to print what I have to say about that."



Len Hofstetter sweeps up cigarette butts around the college's entrances. He says somebody must do it. (Photo by Wayne Collins)



*Counsellor says coping strategies important*

# How vulnerable are you to stress?

By Jacqueline Smith

Do you suffer from mood swings, headaches and nightmares? Do you feel as if there is no meaning to your life?

These are some of the physical symptoms of stress. Stress is the occurrence of a substantial imbalance between environmental demand and the response capability of an individual that manifests itself in a number of ways at different times for different people.

"There is not a single thing that is not stressful," says Duane Shadd, an academic support instructor at Conestoga College.

Shadd, who teaches an elective, Wellness: The Better You, said depending on a person's perspective, stress can be good or bad.

"If you cannot control it, why are you sweating it?" he says.

While he is not claiming to be an expert, Shadd says stress management is a matter of knowing what you can control and what you can't.

For students, Shadd says, lack of time is one of the biggest stresses.

One way of coping with stress is to have a plan in advance says Karen Rittinger, a counsellor in the student services office at the college. She says there are many ways



Duane Shadd (left), an academic support instructor, said stress management is a matter of control: what one can control and what one cannot control. Karen Rittinger, a counsellor in the student services office, gives students stress-management handbooks at workshops.



(Photos by Jacqueline Smith)

in which students can reduce their stress level.

The counsellor says she generally sees a fair number of students with stress-related problems but the number increases as it gets closer to exam time.

"During this time, a lot of students have

difficulty coping with all the pressure and they feel they have lost control of the situation."

Rittinger says February is a good time for students to start planning, and keeping the amount of work they have to do under control. By doing this, she says, students

will be better prepared for exams which leads to less stress.

Rittinger says another way to cope with stress is using a balance scheme, with coping strategies on one side and the amount of stress on the other side.

"People with enough coping strategies can deal with larger amounts of stress, she says those who do not have enough coping strategies are bothered by a smaller amount of stress. They can either reduce the things that are stressing them, or they can increase their coping strategies."

The counsellor said people who have a variety of things to choose from when they are under pressure will more often choose something that works.

Rittinger says students who take care of their bodies physically are better prepared to handle stress. She said getting at least one hot meal per day, exercising and getting enough sleep can go a long way to making students physically capable of coping with stress.

"Students who have some balance, who are not constantly doing school work, but have a bit of social life that is important to them have a good way to deal with tension and stress," Rittinger said.

She said people who are under too much pressure cannot deal with stress and this usually gets out of control.

## Education important to manager's success

By Carly Benjamin

John Sawicki, a journalism and newswriting graduate of Conestoga College, continues to work at the college that gave him his first taste of journalism. He is now the manager of public affairs for his alma mater.

"I tend to shy away from the description public relations because it is easily misunderstood," Sawicki said. "Some people have a negative understanding of that occupation."

The journalism program Sawicki attended was a 40-week certificate level program.

In addition to his Conestoga certificate, he has obtained four university degrees, a Bachelor and Master of Arts from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., Bachelor of Education from the University of Prince Edward Island and a Master of Arts in Education from Central Michigan University.

Sawicki said the extensive education was important for background and context to draw on and he values it a great deal.

The practical skills he learned at Conestoga helped him get started in his job at the college, however.

At the end of the journalism and newswriting program everyone was expected to complete a four-week work term. Sawicki's placement was at the college and that is where he has remained for

the past 18 years.

"I took the skills I learned at Conestoga and went into a work term at Conestoga based on my practical skills training which enabled me to continue here at the school."

As manager of public affairs Sawicki has a hand in media information, research, trend identification and analysis and helps with and/or plans special events at the college.

This past summer he worked on a similar project with the Canadian Identification Society, at a national conference that the college attends.

As well, Sawicki works with the development office and is co-ordinator of the college graduation ceremonies every year.

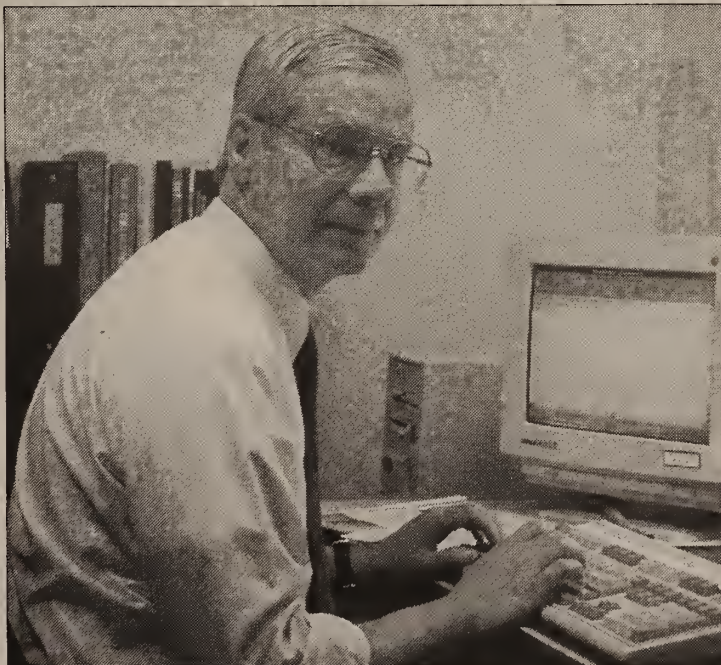
Sometimes he deals with ongoing events on an annual basis and sometimes he handles events that pop up on short notice.

Sawicki has co-ordinating responsibilities and may work hand in hand with the people who are co-ordinating events.

"Sometimes I also do some consulting on the side," he said. "There may be questions or procedures people need ironed out."

He said his job basically covers all these aspects at one time or another.

Sawicki has had a hand in raising the level of respect the community has for the college.



John Sawicki, a former journalism student, still works at the college in the same place where he completed a four-week work-term.

(Photo by Carly Benjamin)

"It has been a long effort that involved a lot of people at the college," he said.

He achieved this by changing stereotypes that were attached to college programs. He found the general perceptions were lagging behind the reality.

Basically he made sure the college was always clarifying and promoting awareness of the college in a positive light.

"So much of what we found was people didn't have a clear understanding of what colleges are and

what they do for the community," he said.

Sawicki has not only raised awareness for Conestoga but also the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario, the voluntary provincial group which represents the province's 25 community colleges.

"Over about a 15-year period I have done a lot of work for ACAATO on some of their committees," he said.

The goal is to increase awareness

and promote the college system as a whole, he said.

Sawicki compares his job to an educator because he is trying to educate segments of the public as well as the public as a whole, about the high value of a community college.

In the future, Sawicki will continue to change perceptions.

"We are now trying to gain acceptance in the province because some of our programs are of such quality they should be recognized as applied degree programs," he said.

The push for various college programs to be granted applied degree status is being considered by the Committee of Presidents, the group which represents the province's 25 college presidents.

"If the opportunity arises for me to make that point with colleagues or groups then I will certainly make that a priority," he said.

Sawicki said he is proud of the growth and development the college has achieved over the years.

"I have seen many changes to the college and I can say without hesitation, by far, most of those changes are for the best," he said.

He said he is a real believer in a college education and feels it is the wave of the future.

"It's a positive future we are looking at and I am happy to be here and be a part of it," Sawicki said.



# Students assemble at Bingeman's for job fair

By Carly Benjamin

The number of Conestoga students attending the annual Partnership for Employment University and College Job Fair has increased.

"Last year over 500 Conestoga students attended the job fair and 671 came through the door this year," according to Mary Wright, manager of student employment, Co-Op education and alumni services at Conestoga.

The fifth annual job fair, held Wednesday, Feb. 3, at Bingeman Park is a joint venture among Conestoga and the universities of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier and Guelph.

The objective of the four institutions is to bring potential employers under one roof, said Wright.

"It is one stop shopping for both employers and students at the institutions," she said. Wright explained it was a great opportunity for students to

network with employers. This particular fair featured full-time positions and summer placements, offering a variety of possibilities to students.

"The intent of the job fair is the employer will have a position available within six months of attending the fair," Wright said, "so they are actively recruiting."

"Last year there were 128 employers here and this year the number has grown to 145, so there is increased interest in the fair," she said.

There are no statistics available on how many students gain employment by attending the job fair.

However, as an example, COM DEV, Space Group, located in Cambridge, who attended this year's fair has hired about 90 per cent of the graduating technology students from the telecommunications program at Conestoga over the past several years.

Wright said employers pay a fee



Some of the 671 students who attended this year's job fair at Bingeman Park look around at the various displays in search of employment. (Photo by Carly Benjamin)

of \$395 to attend the fair and that money goes to the operating costs of the fair.

COM DEV manufactures components for satellite communications as well as wireless components.

Mickie Churchill, from human

resources at COM DEV, said, her company is also in the process of utilizing Conestoga's first co-op program that is scheduled to start in May.

COM DEV is also looking to employ a number of technologists and technicians, accord-

ing to Churchill.

"They are in great demand but in short supply," she said.

Wright speculates the job fair is the largest fair of its kind in Canada and it will continue because it has been so successful in the past.



Students work on their cabinets during the AWMAC competition in the Woodworking Centre of Ontario's shop area. (Photo by Neven Mujezinovic)

continued from page 1

## Woodworking competition held at Conestoga

The industry forum was an opportunity for students to ask questions of a panel of industry people. Six panelists gave an invaluable insiders' look at the woodworking industry.

The panelists were optimistic about the future of the industry. Lloyd Love, vice-president of manufacturing at Durham Furniture and chair of the woodworking advisory committee at Conestoga, said the industry has had a few years of restructuring and downsizing, but now seems poised for growth.

Ted Padfield, a product engineer at West Furniture Durham and a graduate of Conestoga's woodworking program, said he thought the education at the college gave students a good solid

overview of the industry. He emphasized that there is much opportunity in the field which is a diverse industry. He encouraged students to learn as much as possible about computers, their systems and programs such as AutoCAD.

Carmen Howatt, owner of Ottawa Valley Kitchen Cabinets, said he thought computer knowledge was definitely a greater asset than hands-on experience when it came to financial expectations.

Love did not agree completely, saying there was not really that much of a distinction and there is a real crossover as far as the financial rewards are concerned.

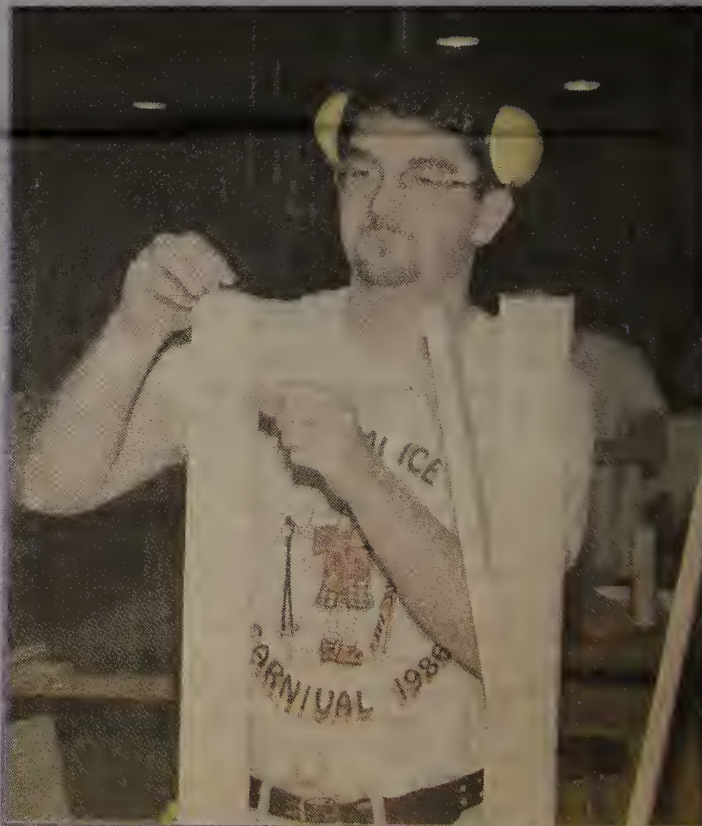
Gerry Cockerill, president of the Ontario Furniture Manufacturers

Association, said he is always amazed at the number of young applicants who cannot see past getting a job. He said students today should have a game plan and know where they want to be in the future.

"There's nothing wrong with saying, 'Five years down the road I want to have my own furniture factory,'" says Cockerill. "You should have your head read, but there's nothing wrong with that."

Cockerill also said woodworking students from Conestoga have a real "leg-up" over others who want to get into the industry.

The general consensus among the panelists was that if you have the right attitude and work hard, rewards, both financial as well as emotional, will be reaped.



Stephane Basiliers gets going on building his cabinet in the AWMAC competition. (Photo by Neven Mujezinovic)



Leisa Cronsberry stands beside the Conestoga College booth which was set up to attract students. (Photo by Neven Mujezinovic)



## Woodworking Canada '99

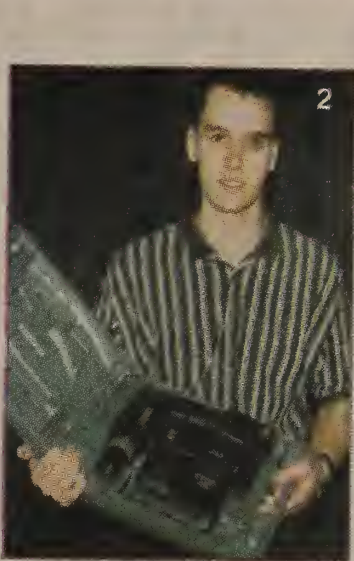
## Students honoured at banquet

By Neven Mujezinovic

One of the highlights of Woodworking Canada '99, especially from the students' point of view, was the Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC) competition. It was held in the Woodworking Centre of Ontario's shop area at Conestoga College on Feb. 4.

The competition involved each of the 15 contestants producing a complete finished architectural millwork cabinet to specifications set by AWMAC. This competition was open to woodworking students and apprentices, technicians and technologists with less than two years' journeyman experience. The apprenticeship competition started at 7:30 a.m. and ended at 4 p.m. in the centre's shop area. Competitors worked all day with only a mandatory 20-minute lunch break.

The winners were announced at an awards banquet and dinner at the Waterloo Inn later that evening. First place went to



Photos by John Sawicki

1. First-place winner in the AWMAC competition, Jason Talbot (left) poses with 3M Canada market manager Brian Brady at the annual student awards banquet. 2. Chris Taylor, who placed second in the competition, shows the second prize, a power tool given by Ryobi Canada. 3. Peter Coates, third-place winner poses with Daniel Reiley, store manager of Lee Valley Tools in London.

Jason Talbot, a third-year woodworking-technology student; second place to Chris Taylor, also a third-year woodworking-technology student; and third to Peter Coates, a second-year

woodworking-technician student.

Talbot said it was a real challenge to get everything done in the time allotted to the competitors. He said he was surprised when it was announced

he had built the winning cabinet.

"There were a lot of nice cabinets out there. I was hoping I did well, but I was surprised, for sure," said Talbot.

Taylor, who came in second place, was a bit disappointed not to have been able to take in the day's other events.

"Other than that, it was a really good day," said Taylor.

Both Talbot and Taylor said they did not think the time for any future competition should be changed to accommodate the contestants and allow them to take part in the day's other activities.

"This will probably work out best and if you decide to go into the competition you will just have

to take the trade-off," said Taylor.

One of three first-year competitors, Bryan Fairfield, said it was a good day for him. Even though he did not win, he says he enjoyed himself and that it was a great learning experience.

"It was the shortest day in my life," said Fairfield. "There didn't seem to be enough hours in the day to do everything that needed to be done."

The annual woodworking student awards were also announced at the banquet. There were 15 awards in total.

The winners were: Jim Durksen, Royce-Ayr Machining Award; Chad Nikiforow, A. Grant Glennie Award; Cherie Morrison, Bob Hoffman Memorial Award; Peter Coates and Rick Carvalho, S.C. Johnson and Son Award; Matt McLean, Krug Award for Excellence; Robert Law, John Roffey Memorial Award; Steve Bader, La-Z-Boy Canada Award; Jody Wyman, Woodworking Centre of Ontario Faculty Award; Sabrina Erneman, Architectural Millworkers of Ontario Award; Paul Brandon (first-place) and Don MacKay (runner-up), Julius Blum Award for Excellence in Woodworking; Cherie Morrison, Bosch Canada/Toolex Machinery Award; Jason Bidan, Freud Canada/Toolex Machinery Award; Fraser Burton, Delta Porter-Cable/Toolex Machinery Award; Doug McDowell, A&M Wood Specialty Award; Doug McDowell, P. Findlay Materials Bursary.



Condors Rebecca Miller chases the ball during tie against the Portuguese Leo's Feb. 2 (Photo by Lindsay Gibson)

## Condors take first tie of season

By Lindsay Gibson

It was evenly matched competition at the recreation centre Feb. 2 when the Condor women's indoor soccer team took on the Portuguese Leo's and tied 1-1.

The Condors have had a successful season thus far, currently sitting in second place with a 8-1-3 win-loss-tie record.

The Condors didn't take the tie with a smile. According to coach Geoff Johnstone, the girls were tired after playing in the St. Lawrence tournament in

Kingston the weekend prior to the game and a number of players had played the night before as well.

"They played a good team and got a tie out of them," he said. "They're not happy with themselves."

The tension was high at half-time as Leo's were dominating the game with a 1-0 lead over the Condors in front of a crowd of 13. It was a fast paced game and the girls played aggressively.

The girls were vocal, trying to help one another out passing

the ball, but they got frustrated.

It wasn't until later in the second half that Ang Papazotos scored a great goal, sneaking the ball past the Leo's defence. This boosted the moral of the Condors but not in enough time to take a win.

Defence played strong aiding Stephanie DenHaan in keeping the ball out of the Condor net. Danny Sirio played well, making many attempts on the Leo's net.

Nadia Recine scored the lone Leo's goal.

## Chillin' on the ice



Holly Melchin, left, and Chrissy Dunn, a first-year early childhood education student, took advantage of the free skating time as part of the DSA's Winterfest Feb. 4

Photo by Eileen Diniz



# Recent homeless death caused by government cut-backs, says teacher

By Wayne Collins

Last Thursday's discovery of a homeless man's body, underneath the window of Premier Mike Harris's Queen's Park office, doesn't surprise Dick Parker.

Parker, the college's social services program co-ordinator for the past six years, says the whole thing saddens him, but he hopes this man's death will be "the beginning of a new consciousness".

Parker is hoping the government will finally take the bull by the horns and put long-needed financing into social programs.

"We are becoming Americanized," Parker says, "and it's becoming very frightening."

He says child poverty is directly linked to families living in poverty. These are the same people, says Parker, who can't survive in the private market, due to the welfare cuts. He says 20 per

cent of those families, affected by the cuts, have been evicted in the last two years.

Parker says Waterloo Region alone had about 2,000 homeless youth in 1998. He blames the Harris government for making a bad situation worse.

He says the current government made the problem worse when it tightened the eligibility for welfare support and lowered benefits.

People with no source of income, says Parker, were often evicted. He says he believes the lack of counselling programs has resulted in more untreated mental health problems, and that many just refuse the few services available.

"They will have nothing to do with the systems (in place)," says Parker. "They handle their money poorly but, because of lack of support, they can't manage."

Parker says the construction of

low-income, permanent housing units remains the lowest for single persons in Ontario and there have been no increases since the Harris government took office in 1994.

Ironically, the NDP government's social programs only raised the deficit, says Parker, leaving municipalities short of money needed to handle the newly appointed responsibility of housing.

"I would anticipate little in terms of positive programs or supports," Parker says of the Harris government.

Affordable housing would work for some, he says, but others, like various addicts, lack "normalized living patterns."

Social programs must deal with teaching the basics of hygienics, says Parker, adding the problems of the poor often translate into more thefts and property crimes.



Chris Craft wanders around downtown Cambridge on a cold Sunday morning.

(Photo by Wayne Collins)

Parker says the Harris government took power in 1994, intending to cut social programs first, hoping no one would notice. The middle class was next.

Parker says, band-aid remedies won't work anymore and the government must develop long term solutions.

Meanwhile, Parker says there are people, such as graduates of the college's social services program, trained to work with the homeless.

"Their skills are transferable to all areas," says Parker. These students, he says, learn how to deal with a multitude of problem situations, but their skills go untapped when programs suffer government cut-backs.

"We've always had the homeless and it isn't a new phenomenon," Parker says, "but it's only front-page news, now, because there are larger numbers of homeless."

## Local band releases debut CD entitled *Aura*

By Eileen Diniz

Derivation, a local Kitchener-Waterloo band, is releasing their first CD, *Aura*, Thursday, Feb. 18, at the Metropolis Nightclub in downtown Kitchener.

The CD was initially set to be released in mid-October 1998, but the printing and artwork took longer than expected.

*Aura* is the name of the CD and one of the songs. "It seemed to represent the dimensions of the songs, their meanings and emotions," said Brooke Parry, vocalist for Derivation. "It just sort of came to us and it made sense."

Parry said the meaning of the word derivation is the source of the band's name.

"We decided, 'O.K. we're starting something here'. It is the beginning, therefore the source, therefore derivation," said Parry.

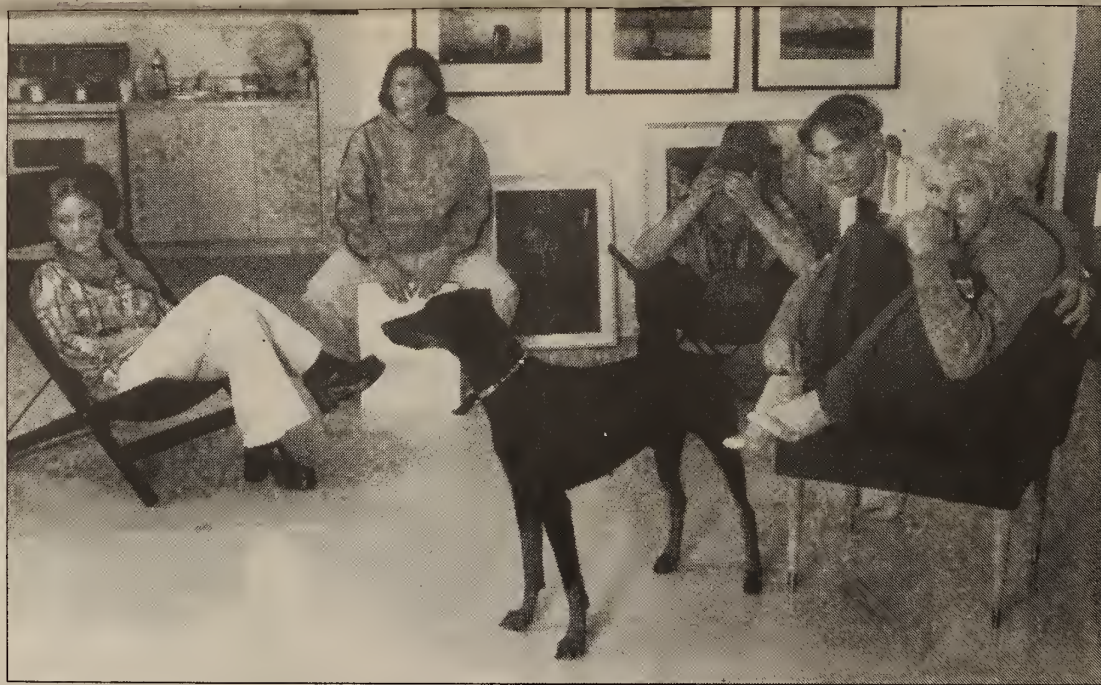
The band consists of Brooke Parry, vocals; Wojtek Kubicki, lead guitar; Rolland Sike, rhythm guitar; Chris Pepper, bass; and Olaf Szester, drums. They range in age from 17 years old to 19 years old.

Parry has been singing since the age of five and her father was the singer of a London-based band. She is currently working at a theatrical shop and as a makeup artist.

Kubicki wrote his first song when he was 10. He is trained in classical music and is currently looking at jazz.

Sike is a competitor at heart. He enjoys the challenges of tennis as he enjoys playing rhythm guitar.

Pepper is the youngest in the band. He is very confident and



Members of the group Derivation, from left, Brooke Parry, vocals; Rolland Sike, rhythm guitar; Wojtek Kubicki, lead guitar; Chris Pepper, bass; and Olaf Szester, drums, with their K-9 friend.

(Submitted photo)

precise in his music abilities.

Szester is oddly enough the only member who owns a car. He is involved in acting as well as music and has numerous roles in film and commercials.

Derivation started in October 1995 and soon after that they hired their manager Paul Irvine from Paul Sanderson and Associates, an entertainment law firm.

They received \$7,500 in funding from FACTOR, Funding to Assist Canadian Acts on Record, and plan to pay them back \$1 from every CD sold. FACTOR is an organization that gives artists money and usually matches the band's investment dollar for dollar.

"If they put \$1,000 into a recording studio then you put in \$1,000," Parry said. "That puts more money into the Canadian music scene, to keep it going."

Derivation has played in Toronto at Lee's Palace, The Generator and the Horseshoe Tavern. They have also played in Kitchener at The Lyric, Mrs. Robinson's and Conestoga College.

They have showcased during Canadian Music week 1997 and 1998, NXNE 1998, and COCA. They were also featured in festivals throughout southern Ontario including Sounds of Summer 1998 in Waterloo. Parry said she would like to play the SkyDome some day.

They recorded their CD at Phase One Recording Studio in Toronto, where Big Sugar recorded their last album, using the same engineers. It was released and mixed in 20 days, which were extended over a seven-month period.

Kubicki and Parry wrote the songs on the album, including Ancient History, Aura, Garden Gateway and The New Song.

A version of Derivation's song Harmony is recorded on *Echo Trip City compilation 1998*. The CD also featured many other K-W artists.

The band is most proud of Garden Gateway, which they spent hours perfecting, said Parry.

"I spent hours and hours record-

ing the vocals for that song. It is definitely the most difficult for me to sing," said Parry. "We also made string arrangements and had a quartet come and play on the song."

The cover of the CD is a close-up of Parry's face and hands, which she insists, was done before Madonna's latest CD came out where she was photographed in the same manner.

Michael Chambers, who is most well-known for his African nude photos, did the photography.

The graphic artist was Todd Dekoker from Imagine That Communication.

"Michael is great, he's been in reviews everywhere. He is one of those superno perfectionist people," Parry said.

She hopes the band can soon expand into some mellow techno. She wants to get some electronics into the band so it doesn't just consist of drums and guitars.

"I am even willing to play an instrument if the band needs it," said Parry.

The concert starts at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5 with ID, \$7 all ages.

Derivation will play a 40-minute set and another band, which has not yet been named, will also perform.

*Aura* will be available at the concert for \$10. It will then be available at Sam the Record Man in the Conestoga Mall at a marked up price.

"If anyone wants to come out and support the band, that would be great," said Parry. "Hopefully we'll sell lots of CD's, which is our main goal."



# Affinity for music drives local performer

By Ken Groulx

Lamenting a guitar glitch that plagued a previous night's performance, local musician Pat Powers nonetheless maintains an upbeat sense of humour in the face of such adversity.

"I think I got some Sambucca in it," he jokes.

Technical problems aside, the 28-year-old K-W native said he believes he has come a long way since he bought his first guitar six years ago and fumbled his way through John Denver's Leaving on a Jet Plane.

Backed with steadfast musical convictions influenced by a wide range of artists including Bruce Springsteen, Elvis Costello and even Gordon Lightfoot, he has earned a solid reputation as a performer on the K-W music circuit over the last four years.

Initially inspired by a simple desire to play guitar by campfire light on long weekend camping trips, he eventually became a proficient enough guitarist and vocalist to attract the ear of another local musician, Matt Allen.

Accompanying Allen for an entire summer in Grand Bend, Powers eventually found he was able to support himself and live at a beach-side cottage by performing at such popular watering holes as Gordie's, Dirty Girtie's and Gable's.

"It's cool to go away into a small town and have that limited celebrity status as 'that music guy,' Powers says. "They really get into the music and that's rewarding."

Financial gains and cult celebrity status aside, Powers says it's his affinity for music that drives him to perform, regardless of an audience's reaction or size.

"Even if two people get it, that's good enough to keep me going."

As a self-taught guitarist with no formal musical training, Powers admits his confidence was in short supply as a neophyte performer and sometimes he resorted to pounding back a few drinks to get his courage going.

But support from such musicians as singer/songwriter Matt Osborne has emboldened Powers with a newfound assurance.

He said he has seen a definite evolution in his own musical progression and presentation, as evidenced in his re-invention of songs by other artists.

"A song is like a bicycle. You can get on it and just go anywhere with it," Powers says he enjoys taking a song and twisting it around to give it a different emphasis on what he thinks the song is about.

"I think I have an obligation to make it a little different. It's what separates a real performance of a song as opposed to



Pat Powers enjoys a more sombre moment at home. He can be seen most Friday nights performing at Joe's Noodle Factory in Waterloo.

(Photo by Ken Groulx)

just repeating a song."

He says he is admittedly aware of the limits of his abilities as a singer/songwriter, but his over-zealousness to be original is sometimes unappreciated by audiences.

Powers says it's a matter of chalking it up as a learning experience in perfecting his craft as a performer.

"Once when I was playing, the bar was packed with guys from Michigan and all they wanted to hear was Lynyrd Skynyrd. It was just classic rock hell. They just try and turn you into a jukebox."

But performing can also be a humbling experience that also provides its own rewards, particularly in performing with other acts, Powers explains.

"We were performing a half-assed jam sort of thing one night during the week at Mrs. Robinson's, and the booking manager told me we had an opening act. He said she's some girl who plays guitar and piano."

"I thought it was funny because we were just hacking around anyway, so it seemed strange that someone would be an opening act for us."

"I was impressed with her enough that I turned to someone and said 'What the hell? She has no business opening for us."

We should be opening for her. She's great!" The girl was none other than Emm Gryner, who scored a hit this past summer with her song Summerlong.

While Powers cut his musical teeth mainly as a solo performer, he has recently struck a musical relationship with other local musicians who regularly jam with him at his weekly gig at Jose's Noodle Factory.

He says he is appreciative of his interaction with other artists such as Craig Cardiff, who have pushed him to improve and flesh out more creative music avenues.

"It's like having Joe Montana as your quarterback when you're a rookie receiver.

Guys like that can only make you better. The local scene is very supportive of one another that way."

Powers said he believes he is part of a comfortable circle of musicians and intends to continue playing as long as he feels there's enough of an audience for him.

"I've never experienced anything in life that sometimes can make me feel so complete," Powers says.

"If I have people who want to come out and hear me play, why not keep going out there and doing it?"

"I don't plan to have a career in music, but I'd be lying if I didn't think it would be nice if I could."

## Entertainment in town

By Ken Groulx

For all you hepcats out there, Van Gogh's Ear in Guelph presents live swing music for its Martini Mondays, but if you pine for the days of thin leather neckties, pennyloafers and Cyndi Lauper, you can always drop in for Retro Fridays...Tickets for Collective Soul are now on sale for their show Wednesday, March 17 at the Lyric in Kitchener. The band is touring in support of their terrific new album, *Dosage*...The Tragically Hip play Friday, Feb. 19 at the Hershey Centre in Mississauga. Good luck getting a ticket...Tickets are available for Korn and Rob Zombie in support of their Rock is Dead! tour. The double bill comes to Copps Coliseum Monday, March 15...Sugar Ray and Everlast rock the Warehouse Wednesday, Feb. 24 in support of their new albums *14:59* and *Whitey Ford Sings the Blues*...Ron Hawkins and the Rusty Nails will be at Mecca (Walper Pub) Friday, Feb. 19...The Centre in the Square presents classical guitar virtuoso, Liona Boyd Sunday, Feb. 28. Tickets are still available...Boo Radley's in Guelph presents House of Velvet Friday, Feb. 26...The Woolwich Arms Pub in Guelph presents Neil Murray and Jeff Tanner Saturday, Feb. 20 and Dole Tinkers Sunday, Feb. 21...The Rain Tree Café in Waterloo is hosting an evening entitled The Fantastical View From the Tree, featuring a diverse cross section of musicians, visual artists and spoken word artists, including Lindsay Stewart, Scott Wicken, Adrian Jones, Jen

Pidgeon and Cindy Clasper. Admission is free...

The Mill-Race Folk Society's annual fundraising show will be held Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Cambridge Arts Theatre. The evening will feature Black Flies, the Jerry Donnelly Trio, Cavaan and Daoula...Lulu's in Kitchener is also bringing Johnny Favourite Swing Orchestra to town Friday, March 5...Fusion on College (next to Kitchener's city hall) presents local singer/songwriter Mark Perak Saturday, Feb. 20 and Olive Wide Saturday, Feb. 27...On the big screen, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony presents two Charlie Chaplin films, The Kid, and The Idle Class Thursday to Saturday, March 11-13. Interestingly, both films will be featured on a giant screen at The Centre in the Square and accompanied with a restored score by conductor Carl Davis and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. Special rates are offered for Princess Theatre members...Tickets are going fast for Natalie MacMaster, who brings her brand of Cape Breton fiddling to The Centre in the Square for one performance only, Tuesday, March 23. She will be accompanied by the K-W Symphony...If you've got about \$20 burning a hole in your pocket, new releases by Fun Lovin' Criminals (100% Columbia), The Afghan Whigs (1965) and Sublime (Bradley Nowell and Friends) are all worth a listen...For all you club kids, MC/DJ Danger Boy from Edge 102's Humble and Fred Show can be seen and heard at the Revolution in Waterloo every Friday...Have fun.



## DSA Elections '99

# Voting Stations

Mon. Feb. 15 9 am - 11:30 pm, The Sanctuary

Tues. Feb. 16 9 am - 11:30 pm, Tech. Wing

Wed. Feb. 17 9 am - 11:30 pm, The Sanctuary

Thurs. Feb. 18 9 am - 11:30 pm, The Sanctuary

Please take the time to  
vote - it is your student  
government!





# Actors save *Playing by Heart*

By Eileen Diniz

*Playing by Heart*, written and directed by Willard Carroll, is a romantic drama/comedy set in Los Angeles about love and family matters. There are several great performers in the film including Sean Connery as Paul, Gena Rowlands as Hannah, Gillian Anderson as Meredith, Ellen Burstyn as Mildred, Dennis Quaid as Hugh, Madeleine Stowe as Gracie, Anthony Edwards as Roger, Angelina Jolie as Joan, Ryan Phillippe as Keenan, Jay Mohr as Mark and John Stewart as Trent.

The movie originally called *Dancing About Architecture* interweaves the stories of a dozen characters, all couples engaging in two person conversations about how they feel.

Paul (Connery) and Hannah (Rowlands) are approaching their 40th anniversary. They begin to argue over an affair that Paul might have had almost 25 years ago. It is unlikely, however, considering the other

circumstances Paul and Hannah are facing, they would be arguing over such a thing. Although the story is a little unbelievable, the chemistry between the two is remarkable and it is easy to believe the two have been married for 40 years. It feels real and never forced.

Meredith (Anderson) is a theatre director who refuses to be swept

off her feet by a good looking architect (Stewart) after a bookcase topples on her.

Gracie (Stowe) and Roger (Edwards), an unlikely match, are having an affair in selected hotel rooms. Roger wants more from the relationship but Gracie is happy staying inside the bedroom doors.

There is also some pain along the

way. Mildred (Burstyn) plays a mother in denial whose son, Mark, (Mohr) is dying of AIDS. She shows up at the hospital where the two engage in a series of sickroom discussions, which end in truth and acceptance.

Hugh (Quaid) has a series of fictionalized barroom conversations with Patricia Clarkson, Nastassja Kinski and Alec Mapa.

Joan (Jolie) is a blabbermouthed, club crawler who meets blue-haired, sullen Keenan (Phillippe). She can't understand why he is so hot and cold with her, but his secret is revealed at the end of the film. It is Joan's and Keenan's relationship that develops the most during the film so it's the one we end up caring about.

Jolie is an original. She manages to steal the spotlight with her stunning stage presence, pouty lips and fashionable punk-rock style. She does this with little help from Phillippe, who doesn't have much of a chance to do anything with his role.

The movie ends with the characters connecting in unexpected ways. It is a near miss; there are too many characters to develop any of them deeply.

The likeable actors and its occasional charming moments to save the film from complete disaster. Overall the movie is satisfying but way too convenient.



Meredith (Anderson) and Trent (Stewart) discussing their almost non-existent relationship in *Playing by Heart* (Internet Photo)

1 2 3 4 5

## Just desserts?

# Audience should get their *Payback*

By Brent Clouthier

What did movie audiences do to Mel Gibson to deserve his new film, *Payback*? For starters, shelling out the \$9 to see this exercise is grand theft screenplay.

After scoring some critical acclaim for his 1995 effort *Braveheart*, Gibson showed he could be more than just a "crazy cop" action star in front of, and behind, the camera.

It's not unfair to have expected more from Gibson than this disappointing Elmore Leonard rip-off, especially after teaming up with first-time director Brian Helgeland, who scripted the Academy Award winning *L.A. Confidential*.

*Payback*, "allegedly" based on the Richard Starkey novel *The Hunter*, features Gibson as Porter, a small-time thief (oh, the irony) who, after pulling off a heist worth

\$130,000, is doublecrossed by both his partner and his girlfriend and left for dead. Five months later, Porter returns to exact his cold-blooded revenge and reclaim \$70,000, his cut of the loot.

What he should have done was buy them tickets to this waste of time.

*Payback* tries hard to cash in on the success and style of such Elmore Leonard-based films as *Get Shorty* and *Out of Sight*, but contains none of the witty dialogue, irreverent characters and intricate action that made those movies so popular.

Instead, *Payback* features attempts at hard-boiled lines that wouldn't have made it in a gangster movie from the '40s, over-the-top performances even William Shatner would be embarrassed by and action scenes that would entertain a dim-witted six-year-old at best.

"No one likes a monkey on their back," says Gibson in one of the film's numerous and tedious voice-overs. "I had three. And they were crampin' my style." Bogart must be spinning in his grave.

Even the soundtrack is a poorly executed ripoff, sounding like it was lifted from an old episode of *Starsky and Hutch*.

The actors in *Payback*, rather than act, squint, smoke, swear and shoot their way through the movie, creating a film with as much substance as

Archie comic book.

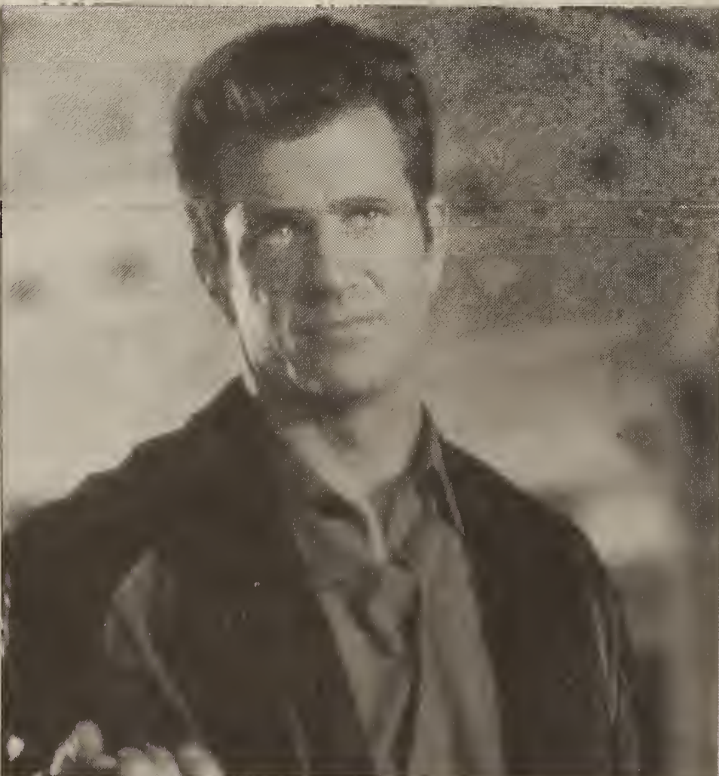
To fill the void, Helgeland chocks the movie with plenty of ham-fisted violence. In one heart-warming scene, Gibson shoots his unarmed ex-partner in the face, point-blank; in another, he has his toes smashed with a sledge hammer, one-by-one.

With segments like those, it's difficult to root for anyone or anything in *Payback* except

for the end of the film.

Perhaps Richard Starkey was a frustrated Elmore Leonard wannabe. Maybe Gibson is still upset that he never got John Travolta's role of Chili Palmer in *Get Shorty*. Whatever the case may be, audiences certainly should not be the victims of this kind of misdirected payback.

1 2 3 4 5



Gibson in *Payback*: Even William Shatner would be embarrassed. (Internet photo)

## Lights, camera, action



Second-year broadcasting student, Sandy Horton, was one of several students found in the halls working on a class project on people Feb. 4. Photo by Melissa Dietrich





Monica Himmelman, an alumni-services officer, handles anything and everything that has to do with the student/alumni relationship. (Photo by Brian Smiley)

## Alumni important to sports success

By Brian Smiley

The relationship between a school's alumni and its students is a vital part of any colleges' success especially when it comes to athletics.

Alumni support is an important source of revenue for sports teams at the college because the cost of running varsity athletic programs is rising.

Monica Himmelman, an alumni services officer at Conestoga, agrees that the relationship is critical, not only to the success of sports but to the success of the entire school.

"I think it's a wonderful relationship and I think we certainly enhance the image of the college," said Himmelman. "We're an integral part of the college system."

Himmelman, who works on anything and everything that has to do with the student/alumni relationship, said the alumni association has been supportive of athletics over the past five years. This year the association made a donation of \$175 to the indoor soccer tournament.

Ian James, manager of athletics and recreation at Conestoga, agrees with Himmelman that alumni support is essential to the prosperity of athletic programs.

"It's extremely important where dollars are being shrunk," he said.

While the college sets aside money in its budget to operate varsity programs, the athletic department must also look for outside support.

In previous years, hockey has been aggressively supported by the alumni but James is trying to encourage financial support for all sports from the alumni.

James said one of the things he has encouraged his staff to do is set up a database of graduates formerly involved in varsity

athletics, so it will be easier to contact alumni.

"We've now really started to approach these alumni for a little bit of financial support," he said.

Although this idea is just beginning to take off, James said he is pleased with the support athletics currently receives from alumni, not only monetarily, but in the recognition athletics receives when student athletes who have graduated come back to participate in intramurals and other activities. This shows James how much the athletic programs have meant to those students.

"It's nice to know that their experience was very good when they were here as student athletes and they are willing to come back and contribute," he said. "That says a lot about the program."

James added it is important for the alumni to remain in contact with the students as role models. This is achieved through activities such as current varsity teams challenging alumni teams to games.

"More importantly, we want to have them come back out to the games that we have here and keep them attached to the programs," James said.

James' vision of alumni support combines all aspects of alumni activity. He hopes to one day offer a relatively cheap membership at the Conestoga recreation centre to alumni, who would invest money back into the college to improve the existing programs. This would combine alumni support and interaction.

Memberships at the rec centre would be relatively inexpensive compared to other athletic clubs such as the YMCA, James said.

This way graduates would continue to be involved in the intramurals and activities at Conestoga, he said.

# Beyond the players, sports lacks colour

"It's just that they may not have some of the necessities to be a manager. I don't know." (Al Campanis, Los Angeles Dodgers executive, on blacks in Major League Baseball.)

Believe it or not, Campanis said this to an American national television audience on April 6, 1987. Even more unbelievable is that it took the Los Angeles Dodgers two days to fire him.

Things haven't got much better since Campanis made his infamous comment almost 12 years ago.

Sometimes we look at Canada and think we are more progressive than our neighbours to the south. Sure we had Cito Gaston managing the Toronto Blue Jays for a few years. And Felipe Alou is still in Montreal after turning down an offer from the same Dodgers who Campanis used to work for.

But what about our college and university teams?

Surprise, surprise, we're a lot farther behind the Americans than many people may think. This is especially true when it comes to one sport in particular, men's basketball.

A couple of weeks ago I wrote an article about the coach of Conestoga's basketball team,



Brian Smiley

Terry Upshaw. While Upshaw is one of the most laid back and upbeat coaches I've ever met in my lifetime, one thing he said to me shocked the socks off my feet.

He told me he wanted to be the first black head coach in the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union (CIAU) to win a national championship. It was what he said next that really made my head spin.

He said he would settle for being the first black head coach in the CIAU's basketball program, period.

Well, after I regained my senses, I decided to do a little research.

The CIAU didn't think my question was important and didn't respond to my e-mail. The Canadian Colleges Athletic Association (CCAA) doesn't keep those records on file. After those two unsuccessful attempts it seemed as though I would never find the answer to my question.

Finally the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) responded by telling me the same thing as the CCAA, but they did forward me an e-mail address for someone who told me that there is only one other black head coach in the entire province of Ontario, besides Upshaw.

This is a startling fact that not only needs to be questioned by the organizations mentioned above but by all the people in this country.

While Bob Rae's Ontario New Democratic Party introduced

employment equity, which encouraged employers to hire visible minorities, this type of system would never work in athletics. People who support and watch sports, pay to see the best possible product, whether it involves blacks or whites. Quotas would change that product.

However, we as a society must question if blacks are being supported and encouraged in sports beyond playing the games.

Are the best people getting the head coaching jobs or are there still stereotypes like those expressed by Campanis floating around, that blacks just don't have what it takes?

Nobody ever thought Jackie Robinson would break into Major League Baseball in 1947. However, enough people questioned the fact that blacks weren't being represented and made it a reality. It is only when questions arise, that answers have to be found.

Bill White, the first black president of the National League (baseball) in 1989, stated his opinion, which was strong enough to make people sit up and take notice.

"I don't think there ever will be a black manager in the major leagues. Baseball's attitudes haven't changed since Jackie Robinson first signed in 1946."

That was in 1974 and later that year the Cleveland Indians hired Frank Robinson as player-manager.

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# Condors drop to sixth place in league

By Rob Himburg

The Condor men's indoor soccer team came up on the short end of the stick, suffering a 3-1 loss to team Steaua in Community Indoor Soccer League action on Feb. 4 at the recreation centre.

The game looked promising for the

Condors as they opened the scoring early when Dwayne Bell netted a goal midway through the first half.

The lead held up at the end of the half as the Condors played and maintained a strong defensive game. As a defender moved up into the play, one of the forwards or the midfielder came back and took his spot.

But something happened as the half ended. With the Condors leading 1-0, the defence seemed to break down and disappear in the second half, as Steaua responded with three unanswered goals.

Steaua's first goal was scored by Marcel Birau on a great shot to the open lower corner of the Condor net. This was followed up by Steaua's second goal of the half, scored by Daniel Petrusa.

This is where a bit of confusion sets in. The Condors scored what they thought was the tying goal, but it was disallowed by the referee as the other team had not yet crossed back to their half after their goal.

Condors assistant coach Sanjeeve Dhanapala explained the situation.

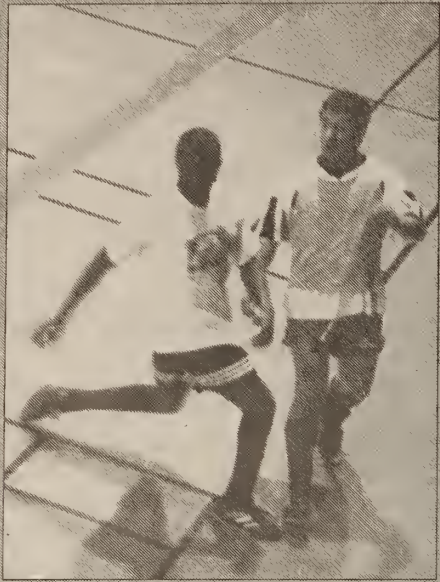
"It's an unwritten rule," he said. "It happens all the time. You get a couple seconds to celebrate, then you start with the other team getting the kickoff. The bottom line is, they shouldn't be celebrating on our side."

The game also consisted of a lot of clutching and grabbing, and when a



Steaua keeper loan Pop dives to stop a Condor shot, one of the few they had.

(Photo by Rob Himburg)



Shawn Samuels keeps the ball away from a Steaua player.

(Photo by Rob Himburg)

Condor player got near a Steaua player, the Steaua team complained to the referee.

Dhanapala said the other team's age played a factor in the clutching and grabbing.

"They're an older team," he said. "They have limited skill in comparison to us. They're just trying to get the calls to go their way."

The lack of skill may not be true, as Birau sealed his team's victory with his second goal of the game with about five minutes remaining.

The loss drops the Condors' record to four wins and seven losses, placing them sixth in the league, while the victory lifted Steaua to a record of six wins, two losses and two ties, putting them in third place.

## Alumni, Condors lose heartbreakers



Condor Karen Melanson bangs a shot through the legs of the Owen Sound goalkeeper. The Condors lost in a shootout to Owen Sound 3-2 to get knocked out of tournament play.

(Photo by Charles Kuepfer)

By Charles Kuepfer

Conestoga's two indoor soccer teams, the Condors and the Alumni, suffered the same cruel fate at the women's invitational tournament: they both lost in a shootout to the same team.

It was a disappointing end for both teams who played well throughout the Feb. 6 tournament which Conestoga hosted, only to be outdone by the nerve-wracking devastation of a loss decided on penalty kicks.

The Condors loss was especially painful since they had earned a bye through the first round of the tournament playoffs and had a well-rested team heading into their bout with Owen Sound.

The Condors started the tournament well, clobbering Canadore College 7-0.

They followed with a win over Owen Sound, beating them 3-0 on two goals by Karen Melanson and one by Sasha Gruetzmacher.

Conestoga finished the preliminary round drawing a 2-2 tie with St. Lawrence College of Kingston on goals by Melanson and Angela Papazotos.

After sitting out the first round of the tournament playoffs with a bye, the Condors ran into an adrenaline pumped Owen Sound team.

Owen Sound's shootout win over the Alumni averted a much-anticipated Condor/Alumni showdown.

Conestoga started the match strong with Daniela Sirio giving the Condors an early lead. Michelle Vandervalt replied for Owen Sound to tie the game, but

Sirio struck again shortly after to regain Conestoga's lead.

Vandervalt's second goal of the game pulled Owen Sound even. Melanson had a chance to win it for the Condors in regulation time but blasted her shot off the crossbar.

A five-minute overtime failed to decide a winner and a shootout was held to decide who would go to the finals.

The Condors started the tournament well, clobbering Canadore College 7-0.

Three of the Condors shooters, Melanson, Jenn Melnyk and Gruetzmacher scored, while Sirio and Papazotos missed. Owen Sound converted on four of their five penalty kicks to earn the victory.

The loss knocked the Condors out of the tournament.

Meanwhile, the Alumni failed to earn a bye through the first round of the tournament playoffs. They never made it past the first round, losing 1-0 to Owen Sound in a game also decided by penalty kicks. All five of Alumni's shooters failed to score while Teegan Docherty scored the only goal Owen Sound needed to clinch the match.

The tournament was won by the Kitchener Spirit, who beat Owen Sound 3-1 in the tournament's championship game.

**Buffalo Sabres Bus Trip**  
Vs Detroit

**Sunday, Feb. 21**

**Ticket \$65**

Sign up at the DSA Office





# Condors sweep indoor soccer tournament

By Lindsay Gibson and Rob Himburg

It was a tournament to remember for both the Condor men's and women's indoor soccer teams when they both captured gold medals at the 11th annual Vikings Tournament in Kingston on the weekend of Jan. 30-31.

Both teams played strong, controlling the games to their advantage.

The women's team went undefeated through the tournament, shutting out Brockville 8-0, Royal Military College 4-0, Centennial 4-0 and St. Lawrence 1-0.

"Our goalkeeper kept us in the games and I think he was robbed of the most valuable goaltender award."

*Duane Shadd,  
Condor assistant coach*

valuable player. Alycia Plummet played an exceptional defensive game for the Condors throughout the five games as well.

Condor manager Vince Alviano said the girls played well and showed positive attitudes.

"They had fun and they play well when they have fun," he said.

On their way to the finals, the men's team tied Centennial in their first game 2-2, then went on to dispose of Royal Military College 5-2, Kingston 4-0, Cornwall 7-2 and Brockville 3-2.

In the finals, the Condors met up with Centennial in a battle for the gold medal. The Condors defeated them for the gold, shutting them out by a score of 3-0.

The men also had an MVP of their own in Paul Mouridian.

Condor assistant coach Duane Shadd, who took over for Geoff Johnstone who was down with the flu, said the team played well.

"We worked as a team and came together out there," he said. "Our goalkeeper kept us in the games and I think he was robbed of the most valuable goaltender award."

The tournament involved a futsal ball, which is heavier than what the players are accustomed to. The tournament was also played under outdoor rules as there were boundaries and the walls could not be used for an advantage by either team.



An unidentified Conestoga defenceman ties up a Niagara player during the extramural tournament's championship game. Conestoga defeated Niagara 5-0 to win the tournament.

(Photo by Charles Kuepfer)

## Conestoga victorious in extramural tourney

By Charles Kuepfer

Conestoga defeated Niagara 5-0 in the championship game to win the tournament for college extramural hockey teams across Ontario on Feb. 5 at the Conestoga College rec centre.

The game was dominated by Conestoga who were paced by Brian Anderson's two second-period goals. Chris King opened the scoring for Conestoga in the first period and goals by Chris Sanders and Rob Horst rounded out the scoring in the final frame.

To reach the finals, Conestoga

beat Canadore 3-2 and Sheridan 4-2.

The Canadore game was decided in a shootout with Kyle Boulton scoring the winning goal. Chris Weisbrod scored the other two goals for Conestoga, who trailed 2-0 heading into the third period.

Conestoga overcame a 2-1 deficit to win their match against Sheridan. Jeremy Sabila scored in the first period for Conestoga. They erupted for three goals in the third period with Chris Larose, Todd Martindale and Chris King all finding the back

of the net.

Georgian won the consolation championship by beating Canadore's second team 3-2.

Other teams who participated in the one-day tournament were Mohawk, La Cite and Georgian.

Conestoga was coached by Jason Snyder, who is captain of the varsity hockey team.

The tournament was organized by Marlene Ford, Conestoga's athletic programs assistant, who is a member-at-large for the college committee on campus recreation.

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**SPOKE**

### Doon Student Association Annual Awards



#### Criteria for Awards

**Certificate of Appreciation** - The Recipients of this award are members of the College Community whose contribution to college life has been significant.

**Award of Distinction** - The recipients of this award are members of the College Community who contribution to college life has been outstanding.

**Award of Excellence** - The highest award presented by the Doon Student Association in recognition and appreciation of outstanding leadership and involvement in college life.

#### Doon Student Association Award Nomination Form

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Student Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Faculty School: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Staff/Administration Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Award Nominated for:

- ☐ Certificate of Appreciation  
☐ Award of Distinction  
☐ Award of Excellence

The above named nominee has made the following contributions to College Life at Conestoga:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit your Nomination form to the DSA, attention Becky Boertien  
 Nomination Deadline Friday, February 26, 1999



## Weather dampens week of fun

# Winterfest victim of the elements

By Brent Clouthier

**W**interfest, Conestoga College's annual winter festival, had difficulty crystallizing in 1999, simply due to the lack of any winter weather.

After a record snowfall in the month of December, Winterfest '99 seemed destined for success. In January, however, a general

rise in temperature and plenty of rain put an end to any of those hopes.

"The weather put a damper on some things," said Patti Stokes, the entertainment director for the DSA, "but people were still eager to participate. Anything that didn't involve snow was a big success."

The popular Polar Plunge was the first postponement; the event's future was in question before Winterfest '99 was officially started because there was no longer any ice covering the Conestoga pond. It has been re-scheduled for Feb. 18.

"We're getting the plunge involved in the Heart for Life

campaign put on by the Heart and Stroke Foundation," explains Stokes. "It provides more of an incentive for the participants."

The tubing party and snow sculpting were both cancelled because of the lack of snow.

The uncooperative weather wasn't enough to halt the success of all the events, however.

The Beach Party held at Jack Astor's on Wednesday, Feb. 3, had a turnout of approximately 160 people. Rene MacPhee won the trip to Panama City Beach courtesy of Breakaway Tours and Steve Gnepe was the winner of tickets to a Buffalo Sabres game provided by the DSA.

"The weather put a damper on some things, but people were still eager to participate. Anything that didn't involve snow was a big success."

Patti Stokes  
DSA entertainment director

The Camp Out to raise money for ROOF (Reaching Our Outdoor Friends) enjoyed similar success.

"As far as the activities went, everything was really successful," said Stokes.

In the case of inclement weather, Stokes says the DSA usually has a backup plan for the

events affected.

The tubing party, however, was strictly a fun event with no alternate planned.

"The whole idea behind the Polar Plunge is to be outside and dare people to jump into an icy pond," Stokes explains. "There's not much else you can do."



Movie  
of the  
Week

Mon. Feb 15  
12:30 pm  
In The  
Sanctuary



### COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Winter Blahs or Seasonal Affective Disorder?

Do you lack energy and feel like sleeping more? Are you always eating and gaining weight? Do you feel depressed? During the winter months, many of us have these symptoms and want to get away from the snow, cold and dark days. We call it the "winter blahs".

For one in fifty Canadians, this is a more serious problem called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). SAD is a form of clinical depression that occurs yearly during the fall and winter months. Four times as many women as men are affected, and it usually first occurs in early adulthood. Researchers believe the sleep-related hormone, melatonin, is overproduced by some people in the winter when the days are shorter and darker. Bright light blocks the release of melatonin, and people with SAD have found bright light treatments to be very effective. For any of us, more light will help in the winter. You can try taking more walks outside, participating in winter sports, turning on more lights inside and yes, of course, going south during March Break!

If you suspect you may have SAD, you can talk to staff in Health Services, Counselling or the Special Needs Department for more information.

### Basketball tournament

## Condors to host seven teams

By Rob Himburg

The Conestoga Condors are hosting the Condor Cup Basketball tournament on the weekend of Feb. 26-28.

Seven other senior men's teams from across Ontario will also participate.

"These teams are better than 95 per cent of the OCAA (Ontario

Colleges Athletic Association) teams," said Upshaw.

The other seven teams in the tournament include the Burlington All Stars, McMaster Alumni, Puma All Stars, London Ramblers, Kingston All Stars, Brock Alumni and the Toronto Heat.

The tournament will be a learning experience for the

Condors, said Upshaw.

"If we get to the finals and pull one off, then great, but we're here to learn and raise money for OCAA entry next year," he said.

Action begins on Feb. 26 at the recreation centre at 6 p.m. when the Condors host the Burlington All Stars. The championship game will be held Feb. 28 at noon.

# TAKE THE POLAR PLUNGE Thursday, February 18

Due to the low water level of the pond, the event will take a different twist this year. If you are daring to plunge... details are available at the DSA Office. Funds raised will be directed to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.





## Making a comeback

# Condors beginning to win again

By Charles Kuepfer

Conestoga's varsity hockey team couldn't have picked a better time to start winning.

The Condors stumbled into the new year on a six-game losing streak, failing to win a single game in both November and December.

However, they have turned things around, winning four of their last five games and pulling their record to 500.

They are now poised to take a serious shot at a playoff spot in the Ontario Colleges Athletic

"Any line can go out and score and any line can play defence."

Mike Traynor,  
Condors' assistant captain

Association's hockey championship.

"The last thing we want to do is not even make our own playoffs (the Ontarios) and be in the national championships," said assistant captain Mike Traynor. "It doesn't look good on you."

Regardless of whether or not Conestoga sees action in the Ontario finals, they will play in the national championship because they are the host team.

Traynor said that the Condors still haven't solidified a playoff spot but he noted that things look a lot better now than they did before they started winning.

"We still think we can get third place," said Traynor.

The Condors started the season off on the right foot, winning their first three games before, as Traynor put it, "the wheels fell off."

But the current team, after

some roster changes at the start of the winter semester, is new and improved and has more depth.

Traynor, who is in his third season with the Condors, said that now the team has four solid lines and six solid defencemen.

"Any line can go out and score and any line can play defence," said Traynor.

Traynor said talent wise Conestoga may not be the best, but he likes the advantage they have being the home team.

"It's our home rink. Anything can happen."

Conestoga now has a record

"It's our home rink.

Anything can happen."

Mike Traynor,  
Condors' assistant captain

of seven wins and seven losses and has three games remaining. They play their next two at home against Seneca on Feb. 17 and against the Sault on Feb. 19.

They wrap up the season on the road with a game against Humber on Feb. 25.

## Alumni claim squeaker victory

By Lindsay Gibson

It was too close for the Alumni women when they met the Nights Feb. 2 and won 1-0. The Alumni, who have been in first place all season, did not play their best, as they are more inclined to crush the opposing team by a much larger margin.

"The Nights are a very quick and aggressive team and they out hustled us."

Marlene Ford,  
assistant athletic director

The game got off to a slow start for both teams, as they weren't quite on the ball. The competition appeared to be closely matched as many attempts were made on both nets to no prevail.

It wasn't until just before half-time when Alumni's Amy Yeowell scored on the Nights in front of a crowd of five people.

The final score stayed at 1-0 which is unusual for the first place Alumni. The women, whose current won-lost-tie record stands at 10-0-2, are used to embarrassing their opponents.

Assistant athletic director Marlene Ford who organized the Alumni team said the women were not happy with their performance.

"We usually control the game," she said. "The Nights are a very quick and aggressive team and they out hustled us."

Ford said the Alumni won on smarts and experience, something the other younger teams don't have yet.

Alumni's Kerri Walker and Andrea Heroux played aggressively, always on the ball. The girls played well as a team with strong passing and strong attempts on the Nights' net.

## Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, February 24  
4:30 p.m. The Other Room

Agenda Items will include: dental plan, budget approval, election results.



## Let's talk about..... Sexual Assault Sexual Safety Date Rape drugging

Wed. Feb. 17/99 12:30-1:20 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary

Speaker: Sue Gallagher, M.S.W.  
Social Worker with the Sexual Assault Treatment Centre  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Come and listen. Bring your questions

Sponsored by the Women's Resource Group

## Upcoming Intramural Games

### Ice Hockey

Tuesday February 17  
4:30 p.m. First vs. A team

playoffs Best of 3

### Ball Hockey

Information  
Not Available

For More Information  
contact ext. 452 at  
the Rec. Centre

## Gotta get a message out?

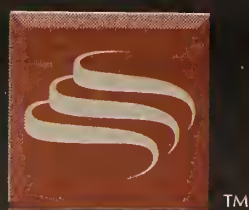
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